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Hongkong Daily Press.

Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office in the United Kingdom.

報西 ESTABLISHED 1877 刺仔

15-19 Marina House, Queen's Road Central.
G.P.O. Box No. 1.

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號伍拾陸第報日西式第

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1940.

日曆拾月貳年拾陸第報日西式第

Price Single Copy: 10 cents.
Per Month: \$3.00.

BRITISH ADVANCE FORCES NOW OPERATING FROM INSIDE LIBYA

Bombardment Of Bardia Has Smashing Effect

Bad Weather Conditions Still Interfering With Air Attacks

BY LAND, SEA AND AIR THE BRITISH AND GREEK OFFENSIVES AGAINST THE ITALIANS ARE BEING VIOLENTLY PRESSED HOME, STATES A LONDON MESSAGE.

The latest communique from Cairo reveals that Italian forces are still holding Sollum but that the British advance forces have gone behind Sollum and are now operating from well inside Libya.

The communique added that bad weather conditions are still interfering with visibility for air operations.

Details which have been received of the bombardment of Bardia shows that it has had a smashing effect. A correspondent who reached Sidi Barrani reported that nothing has been left in Bardia but the shell of the town.

British forces have crossed the frontier into Libya and are now fighting in the neighbourhood of Bardia and Sollum. A severe sandstorm has now changed to rain, making visibility bad and operations difficult and details of the second phase of the offensive are not yet available.

AIR OPERATIONS IN THE WESTERN DESERT: VALUE OF WORK OF R.A.F.

"Air operations anywhere depend on the supplies of aircraft and equipment and this is more important overseas. Supplies of planes and equipment mean more now-days than the number of men in the front line," said a WING COMMANDER OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE, when he spoke in London yesterday on conditions under which the units of the Air Force were operating in the Western Desert.

The speaker also stated that it was now admitted that a modern plane fitted with eight quick firing guns could double the fire of 200 men armed with rifles.

DUST STORMS

The speaker referred to the dust storms which are so prevalent in the present theatre of operations

in Egypt. "These dust storms," he said, "could be very unpleasant. It gets up under you and as it picks up with the wind it looks like bonfires. A dust storm may extend up to 10,000 feet and very often the pilot has to resort to blind flying. It is not a good idea to get lost in one of these dust storms and the only thing to do is to head for the nearest aerodrome."

He next described the area known as the Western Desert. "It is not just sand," he said. "It varies over quite short stretches and some of the sand formations look like enormous ripples, very much like what is left on a sandy beach by the tide. There are also enormous stretches of flat plains on which stand conical hills."

TERRIFIC HEAT

In the summer, he said, the heat was terrific and metal parts which are exposed to the sun get too hot to touch. Much of the soft sand and broken country was unsuitable to wheeled traffic. Because of this, land operations were confined to the coastal stretch. During the winter months, this coastal stretch experienced its worst weather and when the wind rose to over 10 miles an hour dust storms were

Cont'd Page 7, Col. 3

\$3 Million For The Treasury

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—A windfall of over \$3,000,000 will come to the British Exchequer following the death of the Duke of Bedford in August.

The Duke was one of the wealthiest British landowners and left estate valued at \$4,861,000 on which duty of over \$3,000,000 will be paid. The Duke owned the majority of Bloomsbury district in London, and a large amount of agricultural land in various parts of Britain.

Citizens Of London Show The World

LONDON, Dec. 16 (British Wireless)—H. M. the King has sent the following message of thanks to the Lord Mayor of London for good wishes on his birthday:

"I am very grateful, my Lord Mayor, to the citizens of London for their good wishes on my birthday and for the loyal and kindly sentiments you have expressed on their behalf."

"I would like them to know how proud I have felt in their magnificent courage during the ordeals of recent weeks. I congratulate them on the example they have set."

"They have shown the world that terrorisation of women and children and destruction of their houses will never break the spirit of a stouthearted people but only strengthen their will to win through to better days."

SITUATION AT TANGIER

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The British Ambassador in Madrid is discussing the situation at Tangier with the Spanish Government in order to elucidate the exact intentions of the Spanish Government.

The British Consul at Tangier protested immediately. It was learned in London today, when further intentions and steps of the Spanish Government to abrogate the Tangier statute became known.

MOROCCANS REFUSED
Twelve hundred Moroccan troops in Tangier have been replaced by a Spanish regiment, says a London message.

Another Rumania?

CHUNGKING, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—Reliable information reaching here from Europe claims that seven German divisions are already in northern Italy. There is speculation here whether Italy is becoming another Rumania.

There is heavy fighting on the Libyan border, but the number of British casualties is reported to be small.

The Italians are being given no respite to organise lines of resistance. The British mechanised forces and infantry, who have been in action for more than a week are still fighting hard, but behind their advance lies the enormous task of clearing a battlefield of over 400 sq. miles covered with equipment and abandoned supplies.

Lines of communications have to be organised, water supplies secured and armoured vehicles maintained and repaired.

Lines Extended

While the Italian lines have gone shorter and shorter, the British lines have extended.

Against this fact must be weighed the operations of the Royal Air Force, which are continuing to play an important part now.

The devastating effect of the naval and air bombardments can be judged from the latest communique which says that Bardia has been subjected to night bombardments and that the whole course, between Sidi Barrani and Bardia has been shelled.

The Italians have made two attempts to attack British warships. One was by a motor-torpedo boat, which was driven back, and the other was by an Italian submarine, which was immediately sunk by British destroyers.

Cont'd Page 7, Col. 3

—On Other— Pages

- Page 2 Cricket notes; Boxing Day racing; Charity soccer selections; Yachting results; Crossword puzzle.
- 3 Radio programmes; Coming events; Cinema notes.
- 4 Imperial Forces pushing ahead; Another Italian submarine destroyed; Western Desert air operations; Hero of Taranto; Valona twice bombed by R. A. F.
- 5 Two former postmen sent to prison; Round the Police Courts; Starting Inlet junk robbery.
- 6 Leader: Nazi Propaganda.
- 7 Portugal—oasis of Europe; H. K. Police Reserve; Heavy Japanese losses.
- 8-10 Finance and Commerce.
- 11 Vigorous prosecution of war against Italy urged.



LORD LINLITHGOW

\$28 MILLION WAR LOAN

SYDNEY, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The Australian \$28,000,000 War Loan launched at the end of November is certain to be fully subscribed, announced the Commonwealth Treasurer, Mr. A. S. Fadden.

LL. G. AT NO. 10

Mr. David Lloyd George called on Mr. Churchill at No. 10 Downing Street yesterday and remained with the Prime Minister for some time, says a London message.

AXIS ILL-ADAPTED TO DEFENCE ON DIPLOMATIC, PROPAGANDA FRONT

AS INITIATIVE OF THE WAR HAS PASSED INTO THE BRITISH HANDS, Axis propaganda and diplomacy has been thrown into confusion, states a London message.

The writer of conflicting statements which has emanated from Rome and Berlin shows that the Axis is ill-adapted to defence on the diplomatic and propaganda front.

In contrast to the assurances in Herr Hitler's paper on Sunday, that the Mediterranean situation is no cause for anxiety, the FRANKFURTER ZEITUNG said yesterday: "It is true that Britain has given our allies a hard task," and then goes on to refer to the possibility of Italy collapsing like a house of cards.

After expressing the hope that Mussolini will resist the paper offers Italy no prospect of assistance, except that Germany will relieve Italy by constant attacks on England.

The paper implies that since Italy is in the war without Germany's consent, Germany is under no obligations to help her.

BALKANS CAMPAIGN

A Reuter message from Ankara states that Italy's defeat is not believed here likely to result in Hitler changing his policy and attempting a Balkan campaign for the rescue of Mussolini.

It is thought here the Italian situation will have to be desperate before Hitler will be prepared to divert forces from the western theatre of war which Germany considers the decisive theatre.

Thirteenth Japanese To Be Murdered In Hongkew

FOREIGN WORKERS MAROONED

SHANGHAI, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—Marooned hundreds of foreign office workers and shoppers, the Japanese authorities this afternoon suddenly stopped all ingress and egress from Hongkew in the Japanese occupied portion of the International Settlement, following the murder of another Japanese in that area.

The latest victim was a Japanese medical sergeant, who was shot in the back, allegedly by a Chinese while vaccinating another Chinese.

He was the 13th Japanese serviceman shot by Chinese in the Japanese controlled areas of Shanghai in recent weeks.

Today's War Summary

BRITISH AND GREEK ATTACKS AGAINST THE ITALIANS are being pressed home with vigour. British advance forces have gone behind Sollum, which the Italians are still holding, and are operating from well inside Libya. The bombardment of Bardia is reported to have had a smashing effect. Meanwhile, the Greeks have advanced in front of an important village north-west of Pogradetz.

SPEAKING IN WASHINGTON, MR. SOL BLOOM, the Chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, said that if Britain desired credit he was in favour of changing the Johnson Act. "It might be better," he said, "to even permit American ships to carry supplies to England."

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WAS CONSTANTLY examining how best to assist the industry engaged in war production, stated the Viceroy, Lord Linlithgow, speaking in Calcutta. He said that it was generally agreed that the recent Far Eastern Group Conference laid the foundations for a sound and co-ordinated war supply policy.

THE DEATH OF THE DUKE OF BEDFORD, one of the wealthiest British landowners, has brought a windfall of \$3,000,000 to the Exchequer. The Duke left estate valued at \$4,861,000.

INDIA IS UNITED IN DETESTATION OF HERR HITLER AND ALL HE STANDS FOR

"India remains united in detestation of Herr Hitler and all that he stands for," declared LORD LINLITHGOW, Viceroy of India, yesterday when he addressed the annual general meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, states a London message.

"The utterances of political leaders of all Parties are eloquent of this bitter situation."

"Mr. Gandhi has said that it was essential that Congressmen and non-Congressmen should be urged to ask the people to refrain from contributing to the war effort in any way."

"That is not a position we can acquiesce in," declared Lord Linlithgow. "I have the greatest respect for the genuine conscientious objector, but when arms are taken up, the only answer is to take up arms in defence. I regret that we have to deal with a movement of this character, because I do not believe it corresponds to the true feelings of the country."

Referring to the recent Eastern Group Conference in Delhi, Lord Linlithgow said that it was generally agreed by the delegation that the Conference laid the foundations for a sound and co-ordinated war supply policy.

The Government of India had no hesitation in accepting its recommendations.

Lord Linlithgow expressed sympathy with the idea of a national Government for India, but said that he was satisfied that the offer he had made earlier was a step forward in that direction.

The Viceroy paid a tribute to the part played by Indian troops in North Africa and gave details of India's contribution to the war effort.

READY TO HELP

"If there are ways in which greater use could be made by the British Government of the immense manufacturing potentialities of India and her resources in men and material, India is ready and anxious to help," he said.

The Government of India, said the Viceroy, was constantly examining how best to assist the industry engaged in war production.

SHANGHAI RUSH

SHANGHAI, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—

SPEED UP AID TO BRITAIN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The influential voice of Mr. Sol Bloom, Chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, was raised at the Committee meeting in favour of elimination of all legal obstacles to speeding up aid to Britain.

If Britain desired credit for the stated purpose, Mr. Bloom said, he was in favour of changing the Johnson Act.

"It might be better," he added, "considering world conditions, to repeal the Neutrality Act and permit American ships to carry supplies to England."

President Roosevelt, who will confer with Mr. Cordell Hull this afternoon as soon as he arrives back from Warm Springs, will probably submit the question of British aid to the new Congress in general terms in his opening message, leaving to Congress the responsibility of deciding the methods.

Greeks Advance In Front Of Important Village North-West Of Pogradetz

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—Fighting throughout yesterday on the northern sector was mainly limited to an artillery duel, says Reuter's special correspondent on the Yugoslav-Albanian frontier.

North-west of Pogradetz the Greeks have advanced a mile and a half in front of an important village.

Heavy snow is now falling on the whole front.

Two Italian deserters stated there was great food and ammunition shortage. They had also heard peace propaganda in Italy and that a German army was en route to Italy.

The operations of one past week have completely out-manoeuvred the Italians, states a later London message.

The territory which the Greeks have captured consists of strategic heights which can be used to prevent any reorganisations by the Italians.

BRITISH PRESSURE

ROME, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—British pressure has continued in the Yugoslav frontier region, states an Italian High Command communique.

The Italian Air Force bombed enemy forces, states the communi-

"DICTATOR" ANNOYS GERMANS

Charles Chaplin's latest film, "The Dictator," which is being shown to crowded houses in London, has annoyed the Germans, says a London message.

A German paper states that Chaplin's hate propaganda film will help to liven up Mr. Churchill's bad mood with his jokes, but is doubtful whether Mr. Churchill's annoyance will be soothed by the antics of a fat-footed comedian.

In the World of Sports

CRAIGENGOWER BATSMEN ROUTED BY LLOYD, FINCHER

Tinker Lee's Auspicious Come-Back: Attwell Excels With Bat Against Indians

BY "BARNABAS"

AT SOOKUNPOO ON SATURDAY THE INDIAN R.C. ENTER-TAINED THE CIVIL SERVANTS AND MANAGED TO FORCE A DRAW with three wickets still intact. Dickie Richardson who opened the Civil Service innings with K. J. Attwell was again in irresistible form with the bat and scored a fast 67 before being dismissed.

He and Attwell were responsible for a three-figure first wicket partnership which was only broken when the latter was smartly taken by Putty Ismail behind the stumps off Minu when the score stood at 105.

Though Attwell's innings was not perhaps as polished as that of his partner's, I don't believe he actually gave any chances in his score of 42 runs though some of his upshot shots came dangerously near the fielders. Richardson did not survive Attwell long as he was soon afterwards caught by Rahmin also off Minu.

Nether Bill Coddage nor Griffiths both of whom were absentees from the previous Saturday's team did anything of note, the former being out for 5 and the latter 10, but young Derek Hollidge came off with a hard hit 33 to enable the Civil Service to declare at the big score of 185 runs for 7 wickets.

Fatty Minu was the most successful trundler for the Indians, though his four wickets cost him 72 runs.

INDIAN BATSMEN SUBDUED

Of the Indian R.C. batsmen, only veteran Abul Rumjahn seemed to be able to cope with the Civil Service bowling. He had scored 33 runs and seemed well set for 50, when he had the misfortune to play a ball from Frank Baker into his wicket. Previously he had given a rather difficult chance of being caught and bowled to McLeish, but the bowler allowed the ball, which was slightly wide, to slip through his fingers (literally speaking).

Khasa Nazarin collected 15 runs. In attempting a big hit, he gave Richardson an easy catch just behind the bowler. Harry Esmail also scored 18, but his was a patient innings and runs mainly came off the edge of his bat. At close of play, the Indians had scored 99 runs for 7 wickets.

AUSPICIOUS "COME-BACK"

After a long period of inactivity where cricket is concerned, Tinker Lee made an auspicious "come-back" with a 50 not out against Craigengower to save Kowloon C.C. from a bad batting collapse. As the result of Tinker's contribution, K.C.C. managed to knock up the useful score of 130 runs. None of the other K.C.C. batsmen, with the exception of Mr. Extras, scored double figures.

All the three C.C.C. bowlers who were put on met with a measure of success, the best figures being returned apiece. However, Bill Morris captured the most wickets, but his five wickets were taken at the expense of 71 runs.

CRAIGENGOWER ROUTED

Badly as the K.C.C. batsmen fared, those from Craigengower did even worse. Against some exceptionally good bowling by D. Lloyd, the Craigengower batsmen collapsed and were all out for the meagre score of 42. In his four overs, two of which were maidens, Lloyd took six wickets, for only five runs while Ernie Fincher helped to rout the C.C.C. team with three wickets for two runs in just under two overs.

VARSITY BEATEN

In a Second Division match at Pokfulam where the University entertained the Police, the former lost by six wickets. O. Pope bowled well for the Police and captured six wickets for 22 runs; the remainder of the wickets were equally shared between A. Carey and J. Shepherd. H. L. Tan scored 28 for the Varsity who were all out for 108.

ARMED'S "HAT TRICK"

Steady batting by A. R. Paltin, J. Hayward, C. Pope and J. Shepherd

enabled the Police to overhaul the University with six wickets in hand. The Police, however, continued batting and were all out for 150 runs.

Aziz Ahmed, who was put on rather late, secured the "hat trick" his three wickets taken with successive balls being those of J. Shepherd, J. Aitken and J. Baldwin. Incidentally, those were the only three wickets taken by him.

LOW SCORES

The match between the Civil Service and Indian R.C. second strings, was featured by low scores on both sides, the latter winning by eight runs.

The Indians scored 84 runs to which A. R. Suffiad contributed a not out 34. G. Stone worried the I.R.C. batsmen with his big off-breaks. He took 4 wickets for 29 runs.

A. Watson, F. E. Lawrence and A. M. Wright all scored double figures for the C.S.C., but all were out for only 78 runs. M. R. Abbas, Kamindar Singh, and A. M. Rumjahn took three wickets each.

Rumjahn, who had been laying off cricket since the beginning of the season, returned to the fold in this match. He scored a useful 18 runs and almost made the hat-trick. He had taken the wickets of Watson and Stone with successive deliveries, but H. Boocock stopped the first ball he received, though he fell victim to the next, thus robbing Rumjahn of his hat-trick.

"ROBBED" BY LIGHT

Members of Club de Recreio who are in the Volunteer Defence Corps played against the rest of the Club. The result was a draw, bad light preventing the Volunteers from snatching a win. (The non-Volunteers batted first and ran up the score of 111, to which Eddie Gosano contributed 31, H. A. Barros 21 and A. Lopes 20.)

Their early batsmen all making useful scores, the Volunteers soon had 77 on the board for 3 wickets, but in an effort to force the pace wickets were sacrificed. When stumps were drawn the Volunteers had scored 100 for 7 wickets.

BILLIARDS SOCIAL AT Y.M.C.A.

A Billiards Social Evening will be held in the Y.M.C.A. for members today (Tuesday) starting at 7.30 p.m.

The programme will consist of 1 match (6 a side 100 up) Y.M.C.A. versus Royal Army Pay Corps, followed by a Novelty Competition event amongst the members.

The Y.M.C.A. team to play Pay Corps will be selected from the following players: C. T. Terran, R. Goldman, L. Sykes, C. T. Chamblavier, C. Eager, T. G. Stokes, C. H. de Cozier, H. Kemp.

G.M. YOUNG CUP COMPETITION

The first round of the G. M. Young Cup competition of the Royal Hongkong Golf Club resulted as follows:

Gibb Livingston and Co. (bye); Butterfield and Swire beat Dodwell and Co.; H. K. Shai Bank beat S. V. O. C. Chartered Bank beat A. P. O.

BOXING DAY RACING

HANDICAP WEIGHTS FOR KWANTU

The following are the handicap weights for the Fanling Hunt and Race Club meeting to be held at Kwantu on Dec. 26 (Boxing Day):

Race 1.—1½ Miles (Hurdle). Cape Comorin 100, Clowner 165, Dow Jones 160, Eve of Dancing 130, Gretter 160, March Brown 165, Mortmain 160, Saturday Night 160 (late Prince Charming), Soldier of China 160, The Baboon 160, Three Farthings 160, Trinkles 160 (late Morning Glory), Zero 160.

Race 2.—Half Mile (Flat). Arabian Cat 160, Gallant Marshal 158, Gold Eagle 152, High Tower 145, King's Envoy 153, Lucky Eleven 151, National Honour 148, National Liberty 158, Old Fashioned 140, Sunshine Busie 144, Wild Bear 140.

Race 3.—1½ Miles (Steeplechase). Bingo 155, Bleyenburg 149, Colorado Star 152, Glorious Star 152, Kiola 140, Sea Urchin 162, Spectrum 152, Teviotdale 165.

Race 4.—7 Furlongs (Flat). Amber T 155, Circe 155, Colorado Star 135, Dick Turpin 140, Forehand Drive 135, Heinz 138, Lovely Kid 135, Quick Despatch 165, Rising Star 155, Roofly 165, Ruby Star 162, Schmetterling 135, Sea Urchin 135, Surprise Again 148, Tarzan 148.

Race 5.—7 Furlongs (Flat). Bistre 140, Chatterbox 148, Clowner 155, Double Chance 151, Emergency Call 144, Eve of Peace 138, Jack O'Lantern 148, King's Worthing 144, National Success 140, Palmer 140, Phoenix 160, Plet Hein 150, Royal Highness 148, Sylvan-dale 168, The Leopard 152, The Tigris 140, Wilber 167.

Race 6.—Half Mile (Flat). Ascot Vale 161, Cape Comorin 152, Desert Star 155, Dow Jones 149, Geordie 142, Heddon 145, Lancashire Chap 155, Plain View 145, Radium Star 160, Zero 161.

In connection with the "Fanling Cup" a special \$1 sweep limited to 100,000 chances is being run. The cost of one Through Chance is \$10, including the special sweep. The tickets can be obtained at the Cash Sweep Department, No. 17, Connaught Road, Central, Top Floor.

WIN FOR GULL

The ladies' sweepstake race of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club sailed yesterday resulted as follows:

Gull	Finished	Corr.	Pos.
(Miss B. Richards)	16.53.31	18.53.31	1
Redshank	16.57.41	16.57.41	2
(Miss P. Fritchard)	16.59.07	16.59.07	3
(Miss K. de Chaffoy)	16.59.52	16.59.52	4
(Mrs. W. Whitaker)	16.59.52	16.59.52	5
Artemis	16.59.37	16.59.37	6
(Mrs. M. Potter)	16.59.37	16.59.37	7

The third Cruiser championship series resulted—

Division I	Finished	Corr.	Pts.
Norena	16.58.28	18.58.28	9
(Mr. P. M. Sedgwick)	19.19.31	19.40.52	7
(Mr. G. W. Behrman)	19.44.41	19.44.41	5
(Mr. N. V. A. Croucher)	19.44.41	19.44.41	5
Danna T. and Azuma—D.N.F.			

Division II
Cormorant, Eyclent, Sea Lark V Wah Kong, and U and I—D.N.F.

Four Tonners
Typhoon, Cutty, Sai Long, Tern and Curlew—D.N.F.

Tomorrow's Hockey Match

The postponed match between Royal Corps of Signals and the Destroyers in the Hockey Association Tournament will be played off tomorrow afternoon at the Navy Ground, King's Park, bully-off at 2.30 o'clock.

The following team will represent Signals:—/Cpl. Truscott; Signa. Harrington, /Cpl. Holland; /Cpl. Rufford, /Cpl. German, /Cpl. Blount; /Cpl. Pignat, Signa. Price, /Cpl. Rufford, /Cpl. Signa. and Signa. Coghill.

STRONG CHINESE TEAMS FOR DOUBLE CHARITY ATTRACTION ON SUNDAY

China Side Also Selected For Match On Dec. 25

At a meeting of Chinese Clubs' representatives held yesterday evening at the Hongkong Football Association office the two combined teams for the charity matches on Sunday against the Rest of the Colony were chosen.

The matches, the proceeds of which are in aid of charities under the auspices of the Hongkong Youth's Medical Relief Association, the Hongkong Rotary Club and the Macao Relief Association will be played on the CAUSEWAY BAY ground, the first game commencing at 2.30 P.M. and the second at 4 O'CLOCK.

The charges for admission are \$5, \$2, \$1 and 50 cents. Those present at the meeting were Messrs. Walter Hamming Chen (chairman), Chen Fuh-yu (Eastern), Leung Cheuk-wa (South China), Au Ho (Sing Tao), Wong Wai-tai (Kwong Wah) and Soong Chai-yin (Kit Chee).

The following were the teams chosen:

CHARITY MATCHES
2.30 P.M.—Lau Hin-hon; Hau Yung-sang, Tse Kam-hung; Kwok Ying-ki, Lam Tak-po, Lo Wai-kuen; Tang Kwong-sum, Chow Man-chi (Capt.), V. K. Hyul, Cheuk Shek-kam and Wong King-chung.

4 P.M.—Cheung Wing-choi; Tsang Chung-wan, Lee Tin-sang; Soong Ling-sing, Hsu King-sing, Ng Kee-cheong; Chung Yung-sum, Fung King-cheong, Lee Wai-tong (Capt.), Lal Shiu-wing and Hau Ching-to.

Reserves: Lee Kwok-kee, Lee Kwok-wai, Kong Sing-king, Lau Tai-sang, Lee Wai-lam, Lee Tak-kee, Lee Shek-yau, Yeung Shui-yick, Chan Tak-fai and C. T. Tsao.

BEST TEAMS
The following have been chosen for the Rest of the Colony:
2.30 P.M.—Reynold; Roughley (Capt.), Fraser; Maxwell; Farnaby, North; Owens, Pelham; Fox, O'Regan and Bickford.
Reserves: Britt, Cook, Barber and Fowler.

BADMINTON LEAGUE

University "A" Win Easily

In the "A" Division of the Badminton League played at the Chinese Y.M.C.A. last night, University "A" defeated the Chinese "Y" by seven sets to two.

C. Au and P. Koh (Chinese "Y") lost to K. W. Choy and C. K. Lee 7-21; lost to P. H. Hon and H. F. Chan 19-24; beat P. S. Sun and H. S. Lin 21-9.

F. H. Wong and C. Y. Yung (Chinese "Y") lost to Choy and Lee 9-21; beat Hon and Chan 21-13; lost to Sun and Lin 16-21.

H. Koh and T. C. Lau (Chinese "Y") lost to Choy and Lee 12-21; lost to Hon and Chan 16-21; lost to Sun and Lin 9-21.

CRUISER SERIES

The third Cruiser championship series resulted—

Division I	Finished	Corr.	Pts.
Norena	16.58.28	18.58.28	9
(Mr. P. M. Sedgwick)	19.19.31	19.40.52	7
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Danna T. and Azuma—D.N.F.			

Division II
Cormorant, Eyclent, Sea Lark V Wah Kong, and U and I—D.N.F.

Four Tonners
Typhoon, Cutty, Sai Long, Tern and Curlew—D.N.F.

SPORTING FIXTURES

TODAY
BADMINTON—Y.M.C.A. Badminton, 6-11 p.m.

BILLIARDS—Y.M.C.A. Billiards Match, 7.30-11 p.m.

SWIMMING—Y.M.C.A. Mixed Swimming, 6-8 p.m.

TOMORROW

BADMINTON—"B" DIVISION: Section "A" J.R.C. v. King's College; V.R.C. v. Chung Wah; Section "B" St. John's v. Police; K.C.C. v. Kowloon Tong.

BILLIARDS—Garrison League: C. M. Police v. R.A.S.C., 5th A.A. Regt. v. R.A.P.C., 12th Heavy Regt. v. Signals, Fortresses, R.E. v. R.A.M.C., R.A.O.C. v. Royal Scots.

RIFLE SHOOTING—Hongkong Rifle Association Spon and Practice Shoot at Kowloon City, 1.45 p.m.

RUGBY—Club "A" v. Navy Club ground, 4.45 p.m.

SWIMMING—Y.M.C.A. 67 yards and swimming instruction.

VOLUNTEER ORDERS

(CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY)

Appointment and Promotion
Pte. H. W. Bonner, A.S.C. Coy. to be 1/Cpl. Signa. C. Hatt, Fort, Sig. Coy. to be Sgt.

Leave.—Pte. S. W. Mark, No. 1 Coy., 1.11.40-1.24.1; Gnr. A. V. Kolachoff, 1st Bty., 18.11.40-17.1.41; Pte. J. P. Buckley, Mob. Col., 28.11.40-28.1.41; Pte. D. H. Knox, No. 1 Coy., 1.12.40-3.1.41; Pte. L. J. Silva, No. 5 Coy., 2.12.40-1.24.1; Sgt. T. S. Clark, 5th Amb., 2.12.40-8.12.40; Gnr. F. O. Reed, 5th A.A. Bty., 3.12.40-1.24.1; Pte. K. Schouten, Mob. Col., 5.12.40-8.1.41; Pte. M. A. Oliveira, 4th Amb., 8.12.40-2.12.40; Gnr. K. Broch, 1st Bty., 10.12.40-15.4.41; Cpl. C. G. Quah, No. 3 Coy., 15.12.40-3.1.41; Pte. J. M. Woodley, No. 3 Coy., 12.12.40-3.1.41; Gnr. J. Barron, 1st Bty., 15.12.40-1.41; Pte. G. A. McCaskie, No. 1 Coy., 15.12.40-3.1.41; Major J. P. Sherry, Fort Sig. Coy., 17.12.40-10.1.41; Gnr. J. R. A. Pearne, 5th A.A. Bty., 17.12.40-17.1.41; Pte. W. K. Cornock, Mob. Col., 21.12.40-4.1.41; Gnr. J. P. MacGregor, 5th A.A. Bty., 23.12.40-2.1.41; Gnr. O. Mojzisek, 2nd Bty., 7.1.41-5.4.41; Pte. J. G. McKenna, Mob. Col., 10.12.40-3.1.41.

Strength-Increase.—Pte. J. B. Kooter, A.S.C. Coy., 2.11.40; Pte. F. H. King, No. 1 Coy., 4.12.40; Pte. A. G. Hargrave, No. 1 Coy., 4.12.40; Pte. R. M. C. Dobbs, No. 1 Coy., 4.12.40; Pte. R. C. F. MacGregor, No. 1 Coy., 4.12.40.

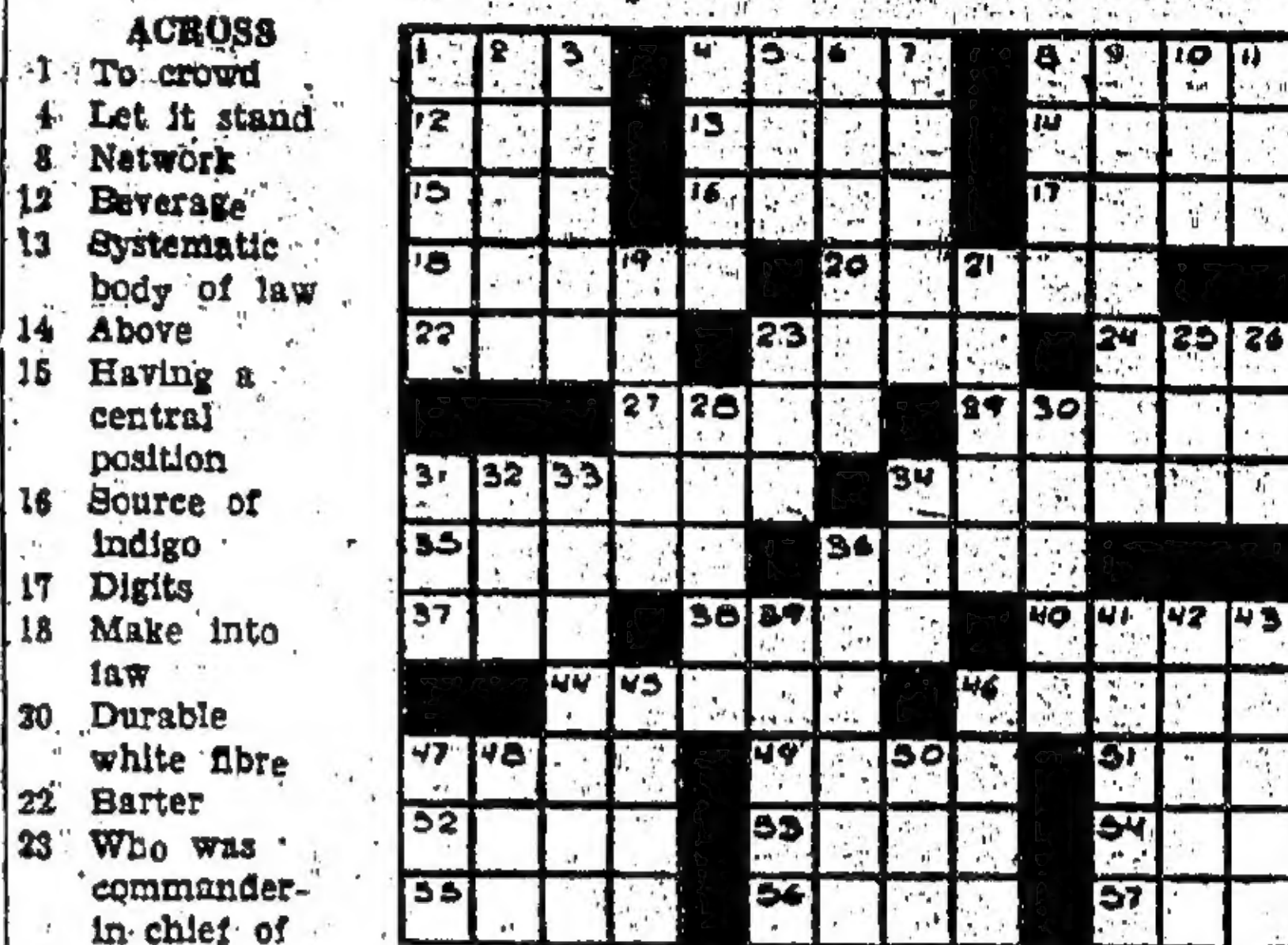
Strength-Increase.—Gnr. M. A. Elerns de Ron, 1st Bty., 10.12.40.

Soldiers' Club Billiards Tournament Result.—Preliminary Round:
H.K.V.D.C. Capt. Bequiere 200, Sgt. J. C. Remedios 200, L/Sgt. J. D. Remedios 200, L/Cpl. A. P. Pereira 200, Sgt. M. N. Rakusen 200, Pte. E. A. V. Remedios 200, Pte. M. M. da Silva 200, Pte. J. P. Hickman 200. Total: 1,600.

"O" Coy. 2/R.S. C.Q.M.S. Graham 124, Sgt. Whitty 161, Sgt. Henderson 85, L/Cpl. Jenkins 125, Pte. Urquhart 104, Pte. Watters 149, Pte. Fraser 138, Pte. Jenkins 102. Total: 1,001.

A new home for refugees has been built by the Kwantu Relief Commission. With sufficient accommodations for 2,800 refugees it has classrooms and clinics besides residential quarters. There is also a vast tract of farmland.

CROSSWORD NO. 783



- ACROSS
- To crowd
 - Let it stand
 - Network
 - Beverage
 - Systematic
 - body of law
 - Above
 - Having a central position
 - Source of indigo
 - Digits
 - Make into law
 - Durable white fibre
 - Barter
 - Who was commander-in-chief of the Allied forces at the close of the last war?
 - Promise solemnly
 - Image
 - Genus of grasses
 - What was the first name of the Lord Protector of England who refused the title of king?
 - Garden implements
 - Hebrew prophet
 - Weight of eastern Asia
 - Cleaning implement
 - Snare
 - Land surrounded by water
 - Subject to analysis
 - What is the missing first name of the American poet—Arlington Robinson?
 - What district in London is
- DOWN
- famous for its narrow streets and restaurants?
 - Misfortunes
 - High playing card
 - Egg-shaped
 - Shortly
 - Masculine name
 - Decline
 - Sea eagle
 - Pig pen
 - Whom did Mary, Queen of Scots, succeed?
 - Disc given as award
 - Exclamation to hiss away
 - Unit of weight
 - What inventor lived at Menlo Park?
 - Purposive
 - List
 - Developed
 - Golf mound
 - Bitter vetch
 - Who laid the foundations of the British Indian Empire?
 - Form
 - On behalf of
 - Unit
 - Existed
 - Who said "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever"?
 - Sound
 - Unit of electrical resistance
 - Game at cards
 - What was the capital of Persia under Shah Abbas?
 - Undermine
 - Who wrote the opera "The King's Henchman"?
 - Elevate
 - Hit hard
 - Legal
 - Foe
 - Only
 - Anglo-Saxon domestic slave
 - Scatter seeds
 - Eggs
 - What was the first name of the actor known as "The man with a thousand faces"?

SOLUTION TOMORROW

Solution No. 782
STEAL DOT GLASS
PINTO TEEREGAL
OTTER GRAVITATE
ULEAR WINTIP
TERN MAPLE DENT
TIRADE WAY
REALIZING REACH
BRIDENIER TOO
DENSE GENEALOGY
TARM REASON
SHAD AWARD WERE
HEN VIA AYE MAN
ALIMENTAL CHEST
MILAN TELLIRINE
EXERT TRAY UTTER

TAYLOR'S LONDON OLD TOM & DRY GIN.

SUPERLATIVE



QUALITY

Obtainable at all Clubs, Hotels & Wine Stores.

GANDE, PRICE & CO., LTD.

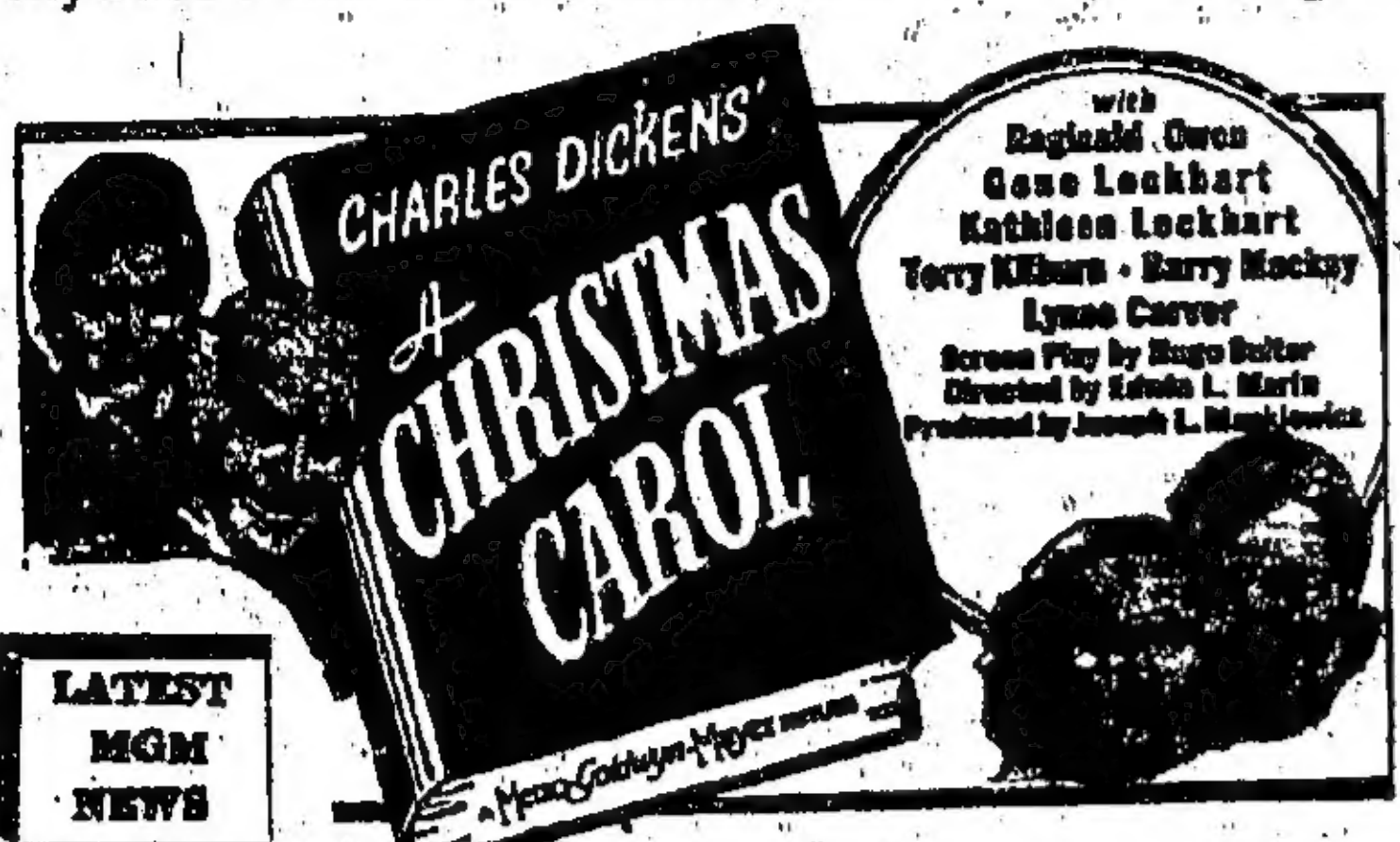
St. George's Building, 2, Lee House Street, HONG KONG.

QUEEN'S THEATRE

HONGKONG DAILY AT 2.30-5.15-7.20-9.30 P.M. TEL 31453

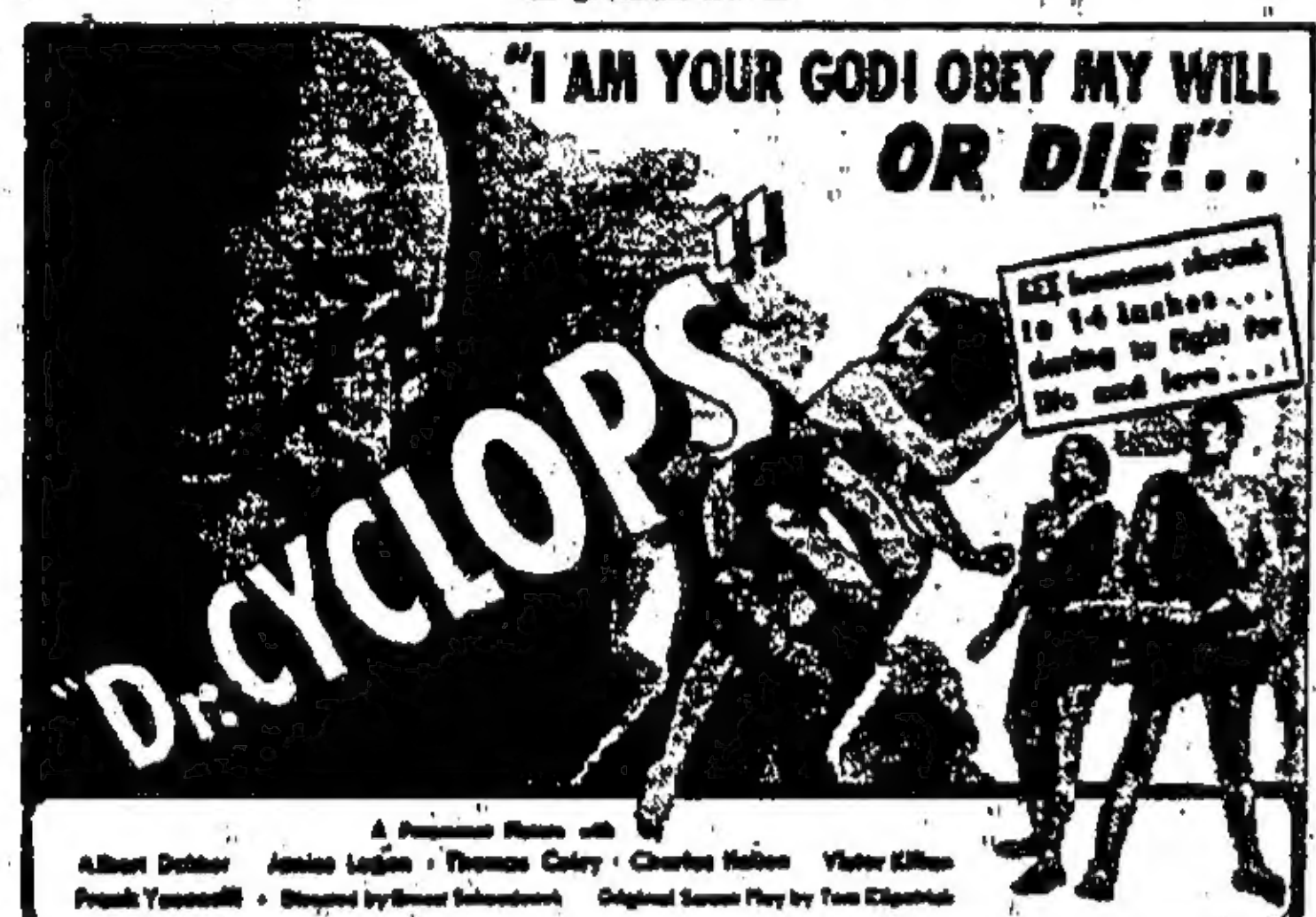
• SHOWING TO-DAY •

Hollywood's Christmas Present to the World of Moviegoers!



ADDED! LATEST BRITISH NEWS
(Come and hear the King's Speech)

• FRIDAY •

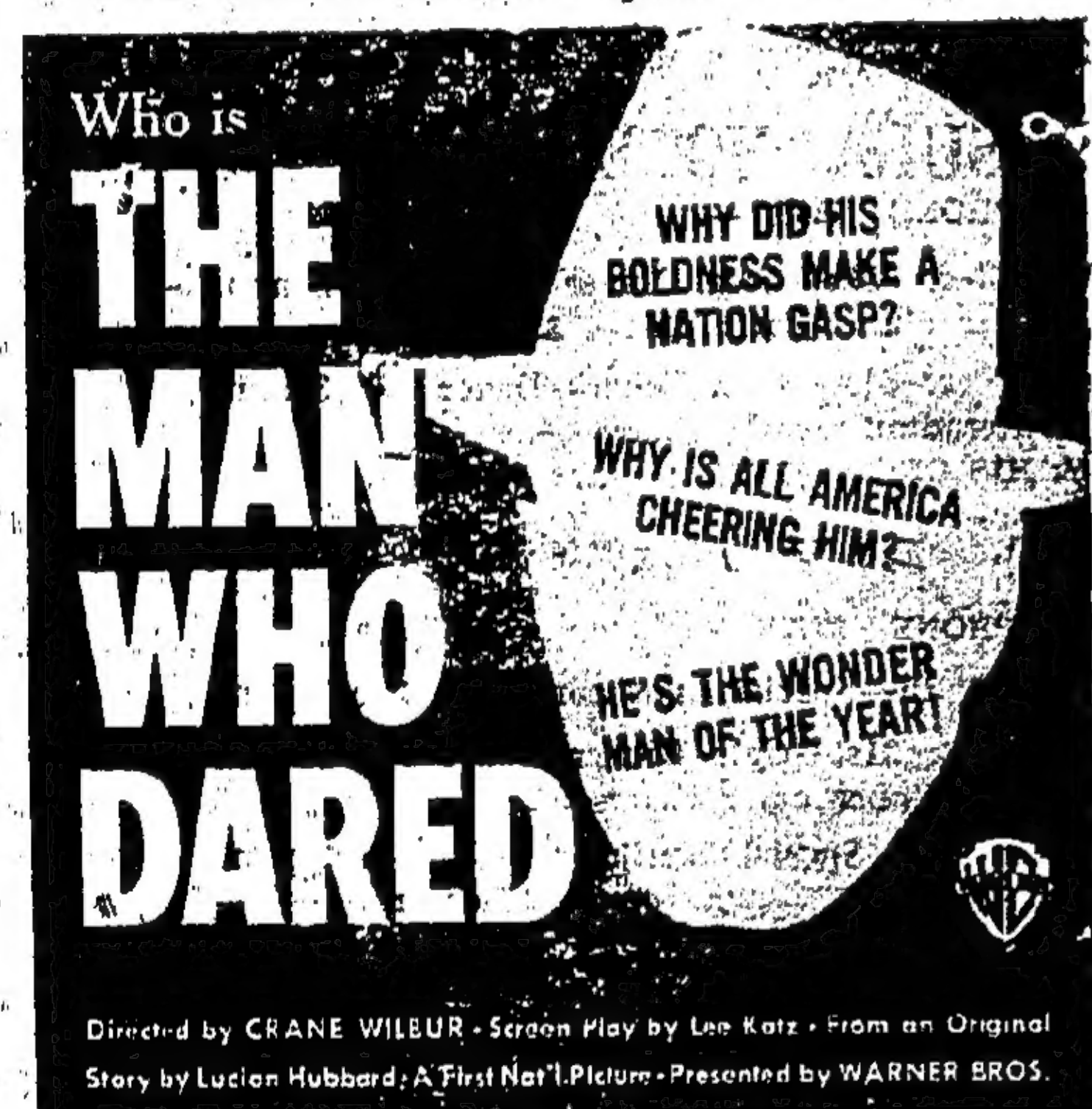


MAJESTIC THEATRE

NATHAN RD. KOWLOON DAILY AT 2.30-5.20-7.20-9.30 TEL 57222

• TODAY AND TOMORROW •

A Sensational Drama Replete With Thrills!



• FRIDAY AND SATURDAY •

The Season's Most Thrilling Hit-Drama!
GEORGE RAFT • JOAN BENNETT • WALTER PIDGEON
"THE HOUSE ACROSS THE BAY"
A United Artists Picture

CATHAY

TAKE ANY TRAM or HAPPY VALLEY BUS.
DAILY AT 2.30-5.15-7.20-9.30 P.M.
MATINEES: 2.30-5.15-7.20-9.30 P.M.

• TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW •

MAISIE, THE EXPLOSIVE BLONDE, IS BACK!
Laugh-teamed with dashing Franchot... in new thrills with
the "sleuthing Sloanes"!



THURSDAY William Powell, Jean Arthur in
RKO Radio Picture: "THE EX-MRS. BRADFORD"

COMING EVENTS

DEC.
17-Tides: High 11.48 a.m. and 10.20 p.m. Low 5.15 a.m. and 5.25 p.m. Sunrise: 6.58 a.m.; Sunset: 5.42 p.m. H.K. Rotary Club Tiffin Mtg. 1 p.m. Speaker: Mr. D. L. Dawson on "Some Thoughts of an Amateur Economist".
St. Andrew's Club dramatic performance, 9 p.m.
Kowloon Ladies' Work Party - "Bring-and-Buy-Something" Tea Party, Y.M.C.A. 4 p.m.-6 p.m.
Y.M.C.A. Women's Section, American Tea, 4 p.m.; Badminton & Mixed Swimming; Billiards Match, 7.30 p.m. Crown Land Sale, D.O., Tai Po, 11.30 a.m.
Cheero Club, Whist Drive, 8.30 p.m. South China University Hall, Welcome to Mr. Yao Yang-wing.
Kowloon Chess Club Junior Championships.
Mrs. Lechmere Obit's Bible Class, 9, Hillwood Road, 10.20 a.m.
St. Andrew's Church: Wartime Intercession Service, 6 p.m.
S. and S. Home: Prayer and Fellowship Meeting, 8.30 p.m.
Auxiliary Nurses' Golf, Tombstone Competition, Fanning.
Urban Council Meeting, 4.15 p.m.
18-Tides: High 12.32 p.m. and 11.55 p.m. Low 5.58 a.m. and 4.34 p.m. Sunrise: 6.57 a.m.; Sunset: 5.41 p.m. Ladies' Working Party (B.W.O.P.), Govt. House, 9 a.m.-12 noon.
Y.M.C.A. War Work, 9 a.m.-12 noon: Swimming, Chess Night, 6 p.m.
Cheero Club, Christmas Party and Dance, 8.30 p.m.
H.K. Reel Club Practice, Helena May Inst., 8 p.m.
Chinese Handicraft Society, Charity Bazaar, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
19-Tides: High 1.23 p.m. and 11.58 p.m. Low 6.40 a.m. and 5.16 p.m. Sunrise: 6.57 a.m.; Sunset: 5.41 p.m. H.K. V's Men's Club Tiffin Meeting, 1 p.m.
St. Andrew's Club dramatic performance.
Physical Training Competition for Kowloon Schools, Kowloon P.O., 9 a.m. Presentation of Insignia at Government House, 5 p.m.
H.K. Singers' Concert, Peninsula Hotel, 9.30 p.m.
Cheero Club, Bridge and Mahjong Chinese Art Exhibition at Hotel Cecil.
20-Tides: High 2.10 p.m. Low 7.25 a.m. and 6.15 p.m. Sunrise: 6.58 a.m.; Sunset: 5.43 p.m. Royal Hongkong Golf Club, Annual Meeting (Jardine Matheson's Office), 5.15 p.m.
Ladies' Working Party (B.W.O.P.), Govt. House, 9 a.m.-12 noon.
Inter-School Physical Training Competition, Hongkong Football Club ground, 11.30 a.m.
Cheero Club, Darts and Table Tennis.
Compulsory Service Tribunal, 4 p.m. Annual Gift Day in Aid of Salvation Army Homes for Women & Girls, Exposition of Chinese Calligraphy, Pung Ping Shan Library, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
21-Tides: High 12.46 a.m. and 3.06 p.m. Low 8.15 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. Sunrise: 6.58 a.m.; Sunset: 5.44 p.m. Central British Assn. Supper Dance, Peninsula Hotel, 9 p.m.
China Light and Power Co. Ltd. Annual Meeting, St. George's Building, 12 noon.
Claims against estate of Wong Yee dua.
Inspection of Air Raid Wardens by H.E. the Acting Governor, 3.30 p.m. Government-Trained Teachers' Union Supper Dance, Hongkong Hotel, 8 p.m.
H.K. University Union, Annual Gymnastic and Drill Display, 9 p.m.
22-Tides: High 1.55 a.m. and 4 p.m. Low 9.05 a.m. and 8.24 p.m. Sunrise: 6.59 a.m.; Sunset: 5.45 p.m. Ladies' Working Party (B.W.O.P.), Govt. House, 9 a.m.-12 noon.
St. Andrew's Club Christmas Carnival Party.
23-Tides: High 2.4 a.m. and 4.53 p.m. Low 10 a.m. and 11.25 p.m. Sunrise: 6.59 a.m.; Sunset: 5.45 p.m. Ladies' Working Party (B.W.O.P.), Govt. House, 9 a.m.-12 noon.
St. Andrew's Club Christmas Carnival Party.
24-Tides: High 3 a.m. and 5.42 p.m. Low 10.53 a.m. Sunrise: 7 a.m.; Sunset: 5.46 p.m. Christmas Eve.
H.K. Rotary Club Tiffin Meeting, 1 p.m.
Claims against estate of Flinio Tinoco due.
25-Tides: High 4.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Low 12.43 a.m. and 11.45 a.m. Sunrise: 7 a.m.; Sunset: 5.46 p.m. Christmas Day.
International Charity Cup Soccer, Scotland v. China (Boundary St.).
26-Tides: High 1.50 a.m. and 7.15 p.m. Low 1.40 a.m. and 12.25 p.m. Sunrise: 7.01 a.m.; Sunset: 5.47 p.m. Boxing Day.
Kwan Race Meeting.
International Charity Cup Soccer, Portugal v. England (Kowloon P.O.).
27-Tides: High 8.57 a.m. and 8.05 p.m. Low 2.29 a.m. and 1.18 p.m. Sunrise: 7.01 a.m.; Sunset: 5.47 p.m. R.A.O.C. Dinner Dance.
Ladies' Working Party (B.W.O.P.), Govt. House, 9 a.m.-12 noon.
28-Tides: High 9.53 a.m. and 8.46 p.m. Low 3.18 a.m. and 1.59 p.m. Sunrise: 7.02 a.m.; Sunset: 5.48 p.m. Christmas Eve.
29-Tides: High 10.59 a.m. and 9.50 p.m. Low 3.54 a.m. and 2.40 p.m.

Radio Programmes

HONGKONG

Z On Wavelengths of 353
B metres (845 k.c.) 51.45
W metres (832 megacycles).

BRAMHMS CONCERTO IN D MAJOR BY KRIEGLER & ORCHESTRA

Portuguese Programme

12.15 p.m. Short Service of Intercession.

12.30 Songs by Leslie Hutchinson at the Piano.

Singing for You - (Hackforth).

Empty Saddles (film "Rhythm on the Range"); The Scops Changes (Billy Hill).

12.40 Hawaiian Selections.

Pun Carnation (Trad.); Palikiko Blues (Trad.); The Tahiti Beachcombers, Toni, Timi, Oua, Oua - Kauai and Lulu with Vocal Effects.

Sainton Love Song (film "Taboo"); Nobia I Muluat Lant-Andy Iona & His Islanders with Vocal Refrain.

1.00 Local Time Signal and Weather Report.

1.03 Compositions of Bizet.

Ballet Suite-Jeux D'Enfants, Op. 22-London Philharmonic Orchestra.

"Carmen" - Toreador's Song - Trio: Riccardo Stracciari, A. Appoloni, E. Ticozzi and Chorus. L'Ariete Suite No. 2 - Sir Thomas Beecham conducting the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

1.30 Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 Dance Music by Ambrose and His Orchestra.

Fox-Trots - The Lady On the Cameo; Chatterbox (film "That's the Right Man"); Slow Fox-Trot - Careless; Fox-Trot - Seventeen Candles; Runbas-Creole Lady; Two Hearts in Cuba; Fox-Trot - Just Say "Aloha"; Miracles Sometimes Happen; Fox-Trot - Bye, Bye, Baby.

2.15 Close down.

6.35 Closing Local Stock Quotations.

6.32 Dance Music by Jack Hyton & His Orchestra.

Quickstep - Darktown Strutters Ball; Fox-Trot - My Melancholy Baby; Quickstep - In An 18th Century Drawing Room; Fox-Trot - Lilies in the Rain; Waltz - Have You Forgotten So Soon; Fox-Trot - Did You Mean It; Quickstep - Give A Little Whistle (film "Pinocchio"); Fox-Trots - When A Woman Smiles; Goodbye, Little Dream, Goodbye.

7.00 London Relay - The News.

7.15 London Relay - "Questions of the Hour".

7.30 A Portuguese Programme.

8.00 Local Time Signal, Weather Reports and Announcements.

8.05 "Brahms-Concerto in D Major, Op. 77.

Quickstep - Darktown Strutters Ball; Fox-Trot - My Melancholy Baby; Quickstep - In An 18th Century Drawing Room; Fox-Trot - Lilies in the Rain; Waltz - Have You Forgotten So Soon; Fox-Trot - Did You Mean It; Quickstep - Give A Little Whistle (film "Pinocchio"); Fox-Trots - When A Woman Smiles; Goodbye, Little Dream, Goodbye.

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KING'S

TO-DAY ONLY AT 2.30, 5.10, 7.15, & 9.30 P.M.



Public Splendor No. 1 because No. 1 to the doctor... and the universal ideal of comedy lovers the nation over... is the adorable person of Loretta Young!

LORETTA YOUNG ★ MYLAND

The Doctor Takes a Wife

Reginald GARDNER • Gail PATRICK • Edmund GWINN • Georges METAXA Screen play by Quattrone and Lee Knight Directed by ALEXANDER HALL

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

TO-MORROW "THE RAINS CAME"

A 50th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE MYRNA LOY TYRONE POWER GEORGE BRENT

ALHAMBRA THEATRE

NATHAN RD. KOWLOON DAILY AT 2.30-5.20-7.20-9.30 TEL 56856

• TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW •

GOLD-MINE RAIDERS MEET HOPALONG FIGHTING ONE MILE UNDER-GROUND!

Clarence E. Mulford's "BAR 20 JUSTICE"

WILLIAM BOYD

THURSDAY

JANE WITHERS in "SHOOTING HIGH"

ORIENTAL THEATRE

TAKE ANY TRAM or HAPPY VALLEY BUS
DAILY 2.30-5.15-7.15-9.30 P.M.
FLEMING ROAD WANCHAI TEL 28473

LAST 4 TIMES TO-DAY

HEROIC MOUNTIES WHO ALWAYS GET THEIR MAN!

They mean punishment to lawless men, protection to defenseless women, these scarlet-clad sentinels of the wilderness, brave a thousand dangers to get their man.

CANADA'S FEARLESS MOUNTIES SWING INTO ACTION!

The first great epic of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police... in TECHNICOLOR

Heart of the North

Presented by WARNER BROS. • Screened by LEWIS SELEN • Grand Play by Lew Liss • All Values obtained • Based on Novel by W. L. G. • In First National Shows

TO-MORROW AND THURSDAY

PAROLE FIXER

Based on J. EDGAR HOOVER'S "Persons in Hiding"

MATINEES: 2.30-5.15-7.15-9.30 P.M.

STAR THEATRE

NATHAN RD. KOWLOON DAILY AT 2.30-5.20-7.20-9.30 TEL 57795

• TO-DAY ONLY •

OH JOHNNY How You Can Love

TOM BROWN • PEGGY MORAN • ALLEN JENKINS • DONALD MEEK • BETTY JEAN RICHES • LINDA JEWELL

TO-MORROW: "ADVENTURES OF MARCO POLO"

IMPERIAL FORCES PUSHING AHEAD IN RAGING SANDSTORM

Details Not Yet To Hand: British Casualties Slight

CAIRO, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—Hard fighting is still in progress on the Egyptian-Libyan frontier in a whirling sandstorm according to latest reports received here, writes Reuter's Special correspondent.

Exact details of the operations are as yet not available but British casualties are still known to be slight despite determined major scrapping.

The R.A.F. continue to batter Sollum barracks, proving that in this area at least Italian troops are still on Egyptian soil.

British forward mechanised columns are putting up a magnificent show, thrusting at the enemy positions at many points along the frontier and inflicting serious casualties on the defending Italian forces.

The "undefatigable" manner in which our tanks and armoured cars and lorries have been pushing on more than a hundred miles day and night for a week reveals clearly the terrific efforts made behind the scenes by the maintenance corps during the preparations for the offensive.

CLOCKWORK PRECISION
Apart from brief halts at the dead of night to perform odd maintenance jobs—often in disguised Italian camps—British mechanised forces are rolling on with clockwork precision.

At the same time, the R.A.F. is continuing to plaster enemy aerodromes and concentrations in far corners of Libya day and night. Pilots are working ceaselessly, pausing only to re-fuel and to re-load bombs before taking on again for the battlefield.

Army personnel in Cairo unanimously declare that a great part of the success of the entire operations is due to Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Longmore's well-calculated and consistent plans for bombing the enemy's aerodromes from the start of the offensive in order to prevent Italian planes taking off.

DISPOSAL OF PRISONERS
Disposal and accommodation of prisoners from the battle area is a task in itself. Many of those arriving here are being sent to prison camps in the Nile Delta.

Three Italian generals who have arrived at Alexandria in British warships are now recuperating in the Spa Hotel.

It is believed here that General Wavell's brilliantly executed manoeuvre has seriously affected the resources of the entire Italian Army in Libya.

RESISTANCE MOPPED UP
The last pockets of resistance outside Sidi Barrani were mopped up on Wednesday by a force operating under an Australian-born Brigadier.

Meanwhile an armoured brigade with a composite force which had been driving along the escarpment running roughly parallel with the coast towards the old frontier, came in contact with the enemy on Thursday and is still fighting.

Large numbers of retreating Italians have been shot up by British fighters, and one group of 100 vehicles and 1,000 men surrendered on Thursday in the Nibehwa-Sollum area.

Another group was attacked by relays of fighters near the spot known among the troops as "Hell-fire Pass."

ITALIAN AIR ATTACKS
In the latter part of the week, the Italians had been attempting to retaliate by air attacks. It was during one of these attacks that an Australian squadron of five Gladiators distinguished itself by engaging 12 Capronis and destroying several of them as announced in Saturday's R.A.F. communique.

Despite the extent of British successes, however, it should not be imagined that the Italians did not put up any resistance.

RAGING SANDSTORM
All day long a continual stream of captured Italian lorries, crammed with prisoners is bumping across the desert through a sandstorm which has been raging the whole week.

One armoured brigade which captured 13,000 prisoners in the Bugbug area alone, signalled urgently for assistance as they were anxious to continue the advance without being hampered by acting as wardens.

A battalion of a famous Indian regiment took over the prisoners and the armoured brigade hurried on towards Sollum in order to cut off enemy forces retreating from camps in the interior of the desert which had surrendered.

MOMENTOUS EVENTS

The momentous military events of the past week have had a tremendous effect throughout the country.

Egyptians have always believed that Egypt's fate is linked closely with Britain's. During recent months, however, they have had to face a tendentious whispering campaign inaugurated by thousands of Italians living freely in the country abusing its hospitality and deliberately circulating reports calculated to sow distrust of the Allies.

STEADFAST LOYALTY
Nevertheless the Egyptians have remained steadfast in their loyalty to the Allies.

Examples of Italian underground activity reveal the arrogance of the Italian colony. Many in recent months have even refused to pay rent, telling the landlords that any action against them would be useless as it was only a matter of weeks before Marshal Graziani's victorious troops would enter the country.

Immediate reaction to the British successes in the Western Desert is manifested in a wave of confidence throughout the country. A small example of this is the fact that 400 Moslems on Saturday registered with the Government as intending pilgrims to Mecca. This number exceeds all those who had previously registered.

REPORTS PLAYED UP
Newspapers continue to display reports from the Western Desert under banner headlines. Representative of the opinion of the entire Arabic press, "Al Ahrar" declares, "British success proves that the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty is a necessity for safeguarding the country's integrity. There is no doubt that the week's events have strengthened in the greatest degree Anglo-Egyptian friendship." The inhabitants of Cairo are expressing the greatest jubilation.

HERO OF TARANTO:

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR JAMES SOMERVILLE

People in Britain and the Empire will know the voice of Sir James Somerville, the Admiral responsible for the recent action against the Italian Fleet at Taranto, through his broadcast commentaries on the work of the Navy in the war. He is a clear and forceful speaker with a happy sense of humour and a knack for the right phrase. Direct and to the point, his personality and determination strike home to his listeners. He would hate to be called "bluff" or "briery"; but his voice is the voice of a sailor. He is, in fact, one of those rare people, a naturally good broadcaster.

Sir James joined the old "Britannia" in 1897 as a cadet at fourteen, and went to sea a year later. Qualifying as a torpedo lieutenant, he soon specialised in the then new science of wireless telegraphy, serving as Fleet Wireless Officer during the Dardanelles campaign on the staff of Admiral Sir John de Robeck. His outstanding work in organising the inter-communication between the Allied Fleet and Armies in circumstances of no little difficulty, earned him a mention in despatches and the Distinguished Service Order.

Varied and valuable experience followed during his service as Commander and Captain in charge of the wireless department of the Signal School at Portsmouth; as Director of the Signal Department at the Admiralty; as captain and chief staff officer to Flag Officers commanding battle squadrons in the Mediterranean Fleet. Later he served at the Imperial Defence College, in command of the cruiser "Norfolk" and as Commodore commanding the Royal Naval Barracks at Portsmouth.

PROMOTED REAR-ADMIRAL

After a term as Director of Personal Services at the Admiralty, he became Rear Admiral commanding the destroyers in the Mediterranean Fleet. Here his outstanding personality and ability

REMAINS OF SON OF NAPOLEON I

ELABORATE PARIS CEREMONY

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The remains of the Duke of Reichstadt, son of Napoleon I and Empress Marie Louise, which have been transferred to Paris from Vienna were placed next to Napoleon's tomb in the Hotel des Invalides in an elaborate midnight ceremony, according to the German-controlled Paris wireless.

The coffin arrived in the Gare de l'Est escorted by German soldiers bearing torches late on Saturday evening and was taken to the Hotel des Invalides on a gun-carriage. Anti-aircraft guns fired a salute while German guards carried the coffin to the entrance where at 1 a.m. the German Ambassador formally turned it over to Admiral Darian, representing Marshal Petain.

French municipal guards then carried the coffin into the chapel and placed it, draped with the Tricolour, at the foot of Napoleon's tomb.

WESTERN DESERT AIR OPERATIONS—

Fifty Capronis Destroyed At Derna By The R.A.F.

CAIRO, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—Twenty-six Italian aircraft were destroyed in intensive R.A.F. activities which were continued in support of the land operations of the Army. Twenty-four of them were shot down by fighters which maintained an incessant patrol throughout the day in protection of advanced troops.

A number of other enemy aircraft were damaged but their destruction is not confirmed.

About 50 Capronis were destroyed at Derna and others were severely damaged.

One fighter squadron of our advanced forces alone accounted for 14 Savoias and four Capronis. Three more Savoias and three Capronis were shot down by other squadrons.

BRITISH LOSSES
From these operations, only three of our aircraft failed to return safely, but it is probable that at least one is safe on our side of the line.

Grobbes Harbour was raided for the first time by our bombers on the night of December 13 and on the same night, Fleet Air Arm aircraft successfully attacked Tripoli, securing direct hits on two ships.

In the heavy attack on Bardia, barracks and warehouses were demolished and a large fire was started, followed by explosions. Both there and at Tobruk, fires were still burning from the raids on the previous day.

BARRACKS ATTACKED
At Sollum, barracks and other military objectives were heavily raided.

All bombs dropped at Grotche Harbour burst along the water front while at Tripoli, where shipping in the harbour was the main objective, two hits were registered on one ship and an explosion followed the bombing of a second. Amara, Gura Zula and Danghilla were successfully raided in Italian East Africa.

**POLISH PILOTS
DECORATED**
ACCOUNTED FOR 44
NAZI RAIDERS

LONDON, Dec. 16 (British Wire)—Four pilots of the Polish Fighter Squadron of the R.A.F. which played such an important part in the defence of London in September were yesterday decorated with the D.F.C. by the Air Officer Commander-in-Chief of the Fighter Command, Air Marshal W. Sholto Douglas.

A fifth D.F.C. was awarded posthumously to a pilot who had been killed in action. Altogether, these five pilots have destroyed 44 German aircraft and severely damaged others.

This was the first occasion that a Polish squadron had received British decorations. These pilots have also been awarded the "Virtuti Militari"—the highest Polish award for valour.

VICTORY FOR CAUSE
Air Marshal Douglas, addressing the squadron, said: "The R.A.F. is proud to have its Polish comrades whose deeds are known throughout the whole force. I hope your squadron will do well in the months to come. I look forward to victory for our cause and to a free and independent Poland." During September the squadron shot down more than 100 German aircraft.

ANOTHER ITALIAN SUB. DESTROYED

OPERATIONS OF LIBYAN COAST

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The Italian submarine Naiade has been sunk by British destroyers states a communique from the Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean received by the Admiralty.

The submarine attempted to interfere with operations which British naval forces were continuing along the coast in support of the Army between Sidi Barrani and Bardia.

E-boats also attacked a naval unit but without success and the attack was driven off. Naval participation in the heavy attack on Bardia was revealed by the communique which says that night bombardment of that port was carried out with successful result.

SHIPS DAMAGED
The Fleet Air Arm had been co-operating with the R.A.F. in the attack on the Libyan coast, states the communique, and in the attack on Tripoli four tons of bombs were dropped. In addition to direct hits on ships, explosions and damage to warehouses were observed.

VALONA TWICE BOMBED BY R.A.F.

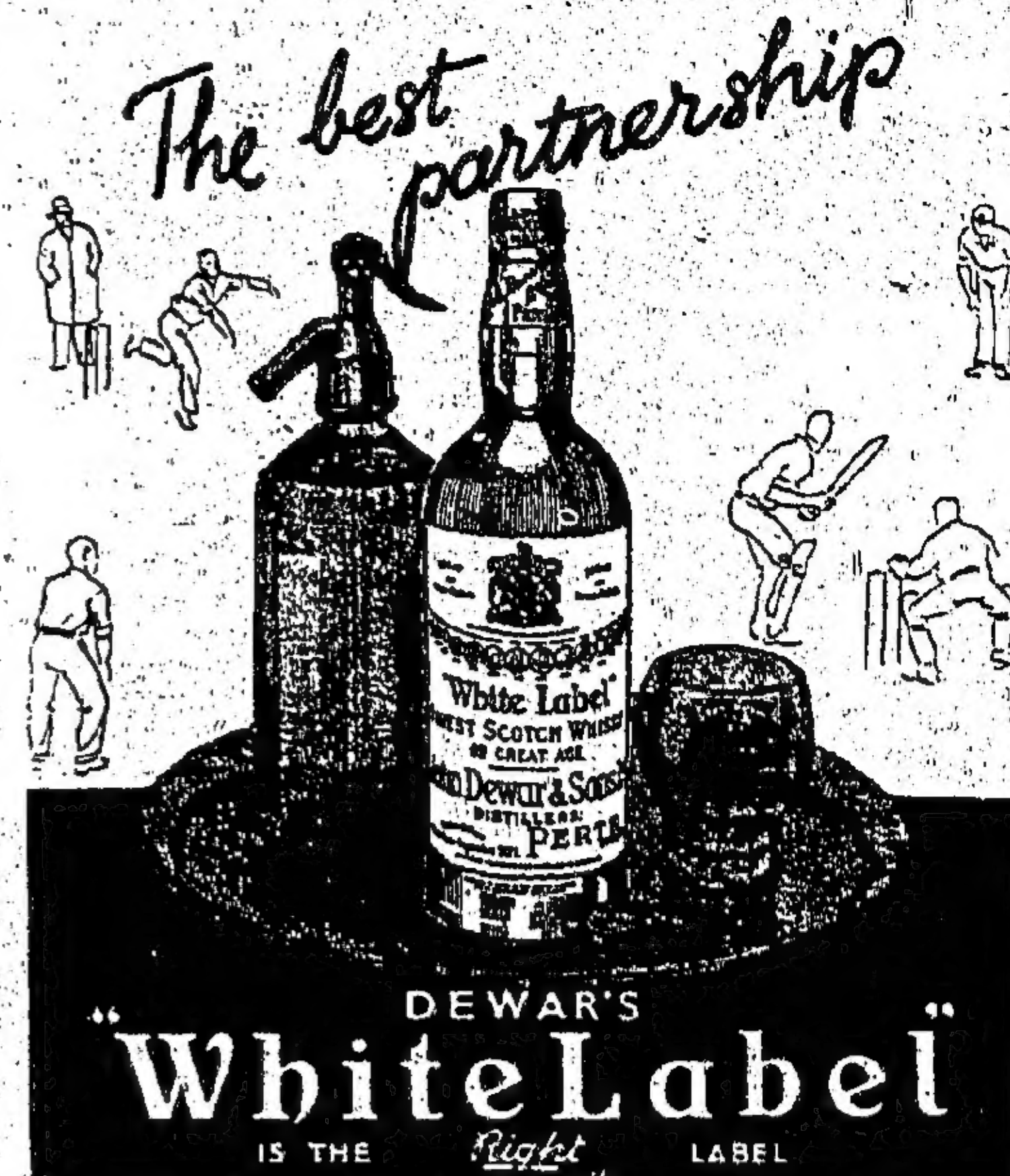
Army Barracks Hit

LONDON, Dec. 16 (British Wire)—The Albanian port of Valona was twice raided by the R.A.F. yesterday. It was announced from the headquarters of the British air forces in Greece.

In the first attack the bombs fell among military stores and on a motor transport park. A column of black smoke was seen to rise from the motor transport concentration and although clouds prevented full observation the Army barracks were also seen to be hit.

On the second attack the aerodrome was bombed, all the bombs falling in the target area. An enemy machine about to take off spun on its wing tip and stopped.

From all operations all British aircraft returned safely.



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Dinner \$8. After dinner cover charge \$4.

NEW YEAR'S DAY—Wed. Jan. 1st—Special Tea Dance \$1.00 5 to 7 p.m.
With "NICK KORIN & HIS SWING BAND" at all the above functions.

PENINSULA HOTEL

— PHONE 58081 —

CHRISTMAS NIGHT—Wed. Dec. 25th—Gala Dinner Dance Till 2 a.m.
Dinner \$7. After dinner cover charge \$3.

NEW YEAR'S EVE—Tues. Dec. 31st—Gala Dinner Dance Till 3 a.m.
Dinner \$8. After dinner cover charge \$4.

With "ART CARNEIRO & HIS ORCHESTRA" at these functions.

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— PHONE 27775 —

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NEW YEAR'S EVE—Tues. Dec. 31st—Gala Dinner Dance Till 3 a.m.
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NEW YEAR'S DAY—Wed. Jan. 1st—Special Luncheon \$4.50 1 to 3 p.m.
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TWO FORMER POSTMEN SENT TO PRISON

Scheme For Stealing Air Mail Letters

Sentences of two years and 15 months' hard labour, respectively, were passed by the Chief Justice, Sir Ashall MacGregor, at the Criminal Sessions yesterday on LEUNG FUK-LAM and LAM SIK-YU, former postmen of the Hongkong Post Office, when they were found guilty by a jury comprised of Messrs. E. Q. Wallace (Foreman), Wong Dal-liang, Y. A. Razack, A. A. Wan, L. B. Gomes, F. M. Garcia, and Chester Bennett, of the offences on which they were charged.

Mr. J. P. Murphy, Assistant Crown Solicitor, assisted by Mr. D. C. W. Fitches, Superintendent of Mails, General Post Office, prosecuted.

The charge against Leung Fuk-lam was inciting Postman No. 198, Mak Cheuk-woon, to commit an offence against the Post Office Ordinance of 1928, namely to steal five letters on November 4 and 8. Lam Sik-yu was charged with having stolen five letters, the property of the complainant, Mr. Fitches.

Mr. Murphy said another man, named Ma Wal-man, should have been in the dock with the first defendant. Ma was, however, released on bail of \$1,000, furnished by his wife, Chui Wai-ying, and had not surrendered to his bail.

On Nov. 1, said Mr. Murphy, Mak Cheuk-woon, Postman No. 198, was approached by Leung Fuk-lam and invited out to tea. Mak met Leung as arranged, and was asked how his financial position was, to which Mak replied that it was not too good. It was alleged that Postman 198 was told that if he had enough nerve he could make easy money as he, Leung, knew of a very clever man who could purloin the contents of letters without being detected.

SCHEME OUTLINED

On Nov. 4, Mak went to the Wah Yuen Cafe and was there introduced to Ma Wal-man who outlined a scheme for stealing American air-mail letters. Mak pretended to agree to the proposal, but on the following morning reported the matter to the Chinese Superintendent who, in turn, informed Mr. Fitches.

On instructions received from Mr. Fitches, Mak continued with his pretence of being an accomplice to the scheme.

The air-mail arrived on Nov. 11, and, on the following morning, Mak was handed two envelopes with five letters inside each and told to meet Ma Wal-man at the lower Peak Tramway station. Ma Wal-man came towards Mak when the latter was alone. On meeting the postman, Ma asked if there were any letters for him, and was handed two envelopes by Mak. Immediately Ma had put the two covers under the newspaper he was carrying, he was arrested, with Mak by a Chinese detective who had been detailed to shadow Mak, and both were brought to the Police Station.

In the Detective's Office, went on Mr. Murphy, the two envelopes were opened by Mr. Fitches and inside them were found the ten letters put there by the Postal authorities.

Subsequently, Leung Fuk-lam and Lam Sik-yu were arrested.

ALLEGED STATEMENTS

Evidence was given by Mak Cheuk-woon, Mr. Lo Pak-wai, Chinese Superintendent of Mails, P. C. Li Shing, Sgt. A. Cochrane, P. C. Tang Ka, and Mr. Fitches.

Ying Li-chau, interpreter, testified to having taken down the statements from the accused after they had been duly cautioned. In his statement, first accused was alleged to have said that he introduced Postman 198 to Ma Wal-man who instructed the postman to steal the letters. Accused admitted having handed the envelopes to Mak Cheuk-woon.

In a statement from the dock, first defendant said that he admitted the offence because he had been told that he would be beaten up if he did not agree with the Police when in the Detective's Office.

The statement of the second accused, said witness, read, "I did steal the letters."

This was strenuously denied by defendant in Court. He asserted that what he said was that he did not steal the letter, and that the interpreter argued with him over that point and finally put him down as having admitted the offence.

In evidence, first accused declared that the whole case was a trumped-up one.

ROUND THE POLICE COURTS

AT CENTRAL

THEFT AT RACES

Sentence of three months' hard labour to be followed by expulsion from the Colony was imposed on Young Chung-shan, 28, seaman, of No. 38 Western St., first floor, when he appeared before Mr. Sheldon, K.C., yesterday on two charges.

Det.-Sgt. V. M. Morrison, prosecuting, said that defendant stole \$20 from the person of Tang Siu-ki, 32, clerk, of No. 48 Tung Lo Wan Road, first floor, at the Happy Valley race course on Saturday afternoon.

Found with a member's badge of the Hongkong Jockey Club in his pocket after being handed over to the Police, defendant was additionally charged, with receiving the badge knowing it to have been stolen, or unlawfully obtained.

Defendant denied stealing and said that the money was his. He further stated that he was caught by complainant while he was strolling on the lawn and not in front of the pari-mutuel counter as claimed by complainant. As to the badge, he explained that he bought it from a shoe-polish boy for 80 cents.

The badge in question, No. 1,294, is the property of Mr. Wong Kam-fun who lost it at the race course on Oct. 10.

REVOLVER FOUND

Li Yiu, 46, unlicensed fish hawk, appeared before Mr. Lowry yesterday, charged with the possession of a revolver at No. 74 Stanley Street, second floor, without a licence.

Det.-Sgt. T. Cashman asked for 48 hours' remand for further enquiries, and this was granted.

THEFT FROM R. N. D.

A fine of \$100, or in default, two months' imprisonment, was passed by Mr. H.G. Sheldon, K.C., on Tsui Ming-sun, 37, of No. 188 Queen's Road East, second floor, when he admitted the charge of stealing from the Royal Navy Dockyard nine pounds of brass valued at \$150 yesterday.

Insp. Portallan said that defendant, who was a blacksmith in the Dockyard, was found to have in his possession the said articles, concealed in his waist band and in his shoes, during a routine search at the gate.

Complainant said that defendant had been in the service for about nine years, and was earning between \$30 and \$35 a month.

UTTERED FORGED \$10 NOTE

MAN SENTENCED AT SESSIONS

Found guilty on charges of uttering and possession of a forged banknote, WONG WAI, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment by Mr. Justice Williams at the Criminal Sessions yesterday.

Wong was charged with uttering a forged \$10 note of the Chartered Bank of India, China and Australia, on Nov. 11 at the Hung Cheung grocery, Kowloon, and with possession of the note.

Mr. J. Reynolds, Crown Counsel, assisted by Sgt. Johnson, prosecuted, and the following comprised the jury: Messrs. E. V. Searle (Foreman), Lo Kung-wing, A. Olsen, Chao Chi-chen, F. A. Machado, Kwan Ching-tak and Po On-wong.

At the police station, when questioned, accused stated that the note had been given to him by Ah Chan whom he met by accident and who had promised him several ten cent pieces if he would buy him (Ah Chan) some ham.

Asked why he stole, defendant said that his wages were 97 cents by the day—no income on Sundays and holidays—and these were not enough to support his family.

ALLEGED MURDERERS REMANDED

Charged with the murder of Wong King on Dec. 12 at Shaokwan, Tang Fu Hoi, 17, unemployed boiler maker, Wong Kwai, 18, unemployed coolie, and Pun Tak-wah, 17, unemployed, appeared before Mr. Sheldon yesterday.

Det. Sub-Insp. W.N. Darkin, prosecuting, asked for a 72 hours' remand in police custody, and was granted.

AT KOWLOON

INDIANS CONVICTED

Convicted of assaulting a colleague, two watchmen Dalip Singh and Ghurid Singh, were each bound over to be of good behaviour for 12 months and ordered to pay \$25 compensation to the complainant, by Mr. Himsforth yesterday.

Mr. J. M. d'Almeida Remedios, assisted by Sub-Insp. Madgwick, conducted the prosecution.

The complainant, Udum Singh, was employed by the Hongkong Engineering Construction Company as a watchman. About 10 p.m. on Nov. 23 when he was resting in his quarters he heard a loud knock. He refused to open the door because he would be on duty at midnight and needed rest. The two defendants begged him to open the door just for a little while. As he pulled the door open he was held by the hair by the second defendant while the first accused assaulted him.

Two amahs intervened and the complainant managed to free himself. He was chased by the first accused back to his own room where he was struck with a piece of wood. He fainted and fell on the ground. It was also alleged that the first accused continued to give him blows.

The complainant was taken to Kowloon Hospital where he was detained for about three weeks.

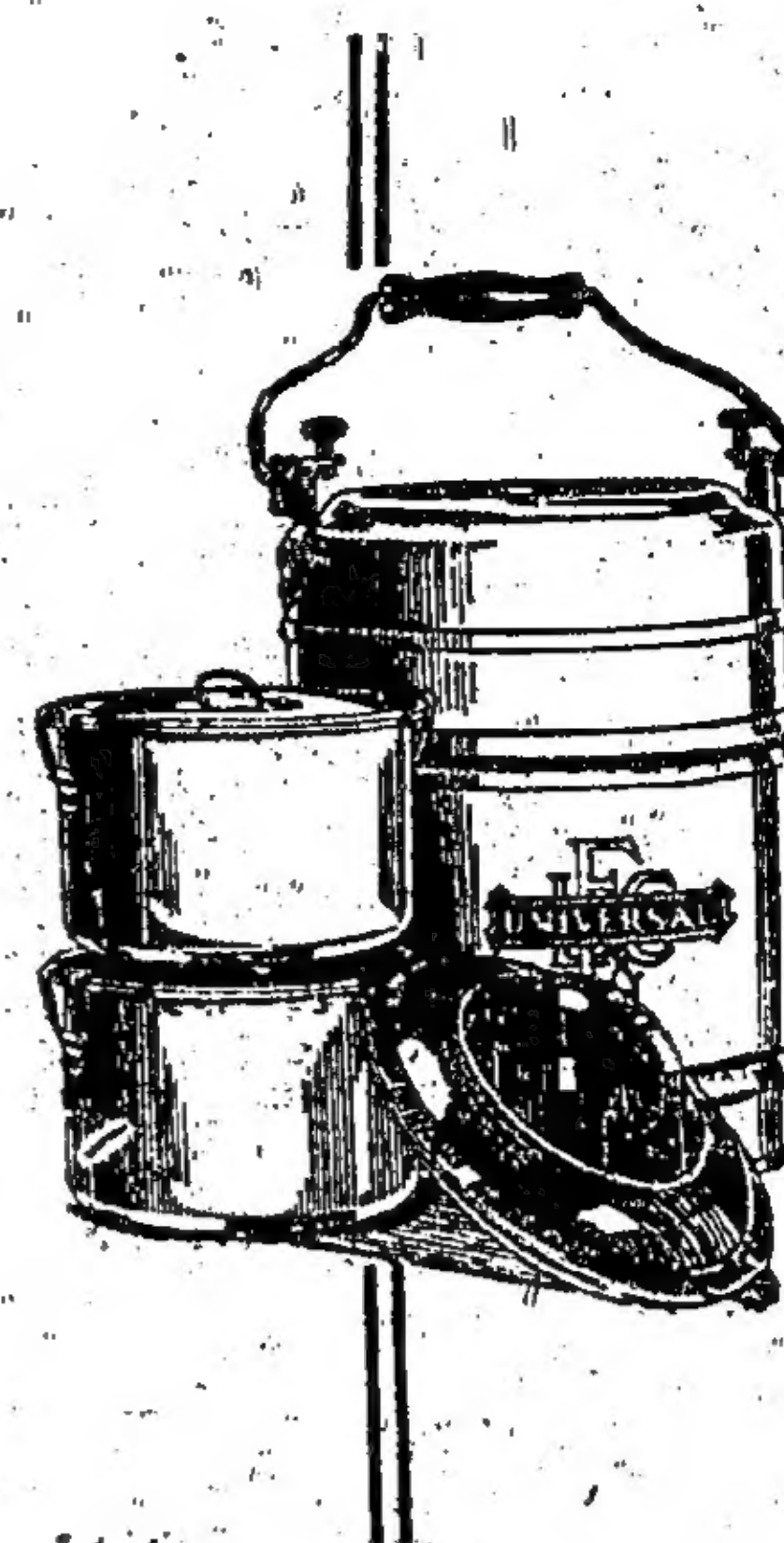
It was alleged that the motive of the assault was for a woman who was on good terms with both complainant and first defendant. The second defendant said that all of them were very drunk on the night in question, and they might have assaulted him without any motive or intention.

Evidence was given by Dr. P. F. S. Court, of the Kowloon Hospital, who said that the complainant received injuries to the skull. He also had a black eye and bruises on the abdomen.

WOMAN DISCHARGED

"The conspiracy alleged and the evidence in support of it is by far too vague. In the circumstances I cannot without reasonable doubt find defendant guilty of taking part in the conspiracy alleged," remarked Mr. Macfadyen yesterday when he discharged Kwok Yuk-ping, married woman, who was charged with conspiracy to defraud a movie actress, Chan Siu-yu, of \$1,000.

It was alleged that the complainant was involved in plotting a fake "fan-tan" game to order to defraud a wealthy man of his



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HEALTH RETURNS

The following is the return of notifiable diseases notified as having occurred in the Colony during the 48 hours ended at midnight on Dec. 15: Cholera, four cases; Dysentery, 11 cases; Tuberculosis, 21 cases.

EASTERN PORTS

Practically a clean bill of health was revealed when the Bulletin of Eastern Ports, for the week ending Dec. 7, was received yesterday, only one case of Small-Pox being reported in Rangoon.

Starling Inlet Junk Robbery Recalled

CHEUNG SAM-CHEUNG, PANG SANG and MO YAU were arraigned before Mr. Justice Williams at the Criminal Sessions yesterday, on a charge of robbery by two or more.

The accused were alleged to have robbed passengers on a junk of \$801.60 Chinese currency and H.K.\$65.88 on Nov. 23 while the junk was in Starling Inlet Bay, in the waters of the Colony.

Mr. J. Reynolds, Crown Counsel, assisted by Sgt. Mottram, appeared for the prosecution.

The following jury was empanelled: Messrs. C. H. Blake (foreman), Young Chung-piu, Lee Yee-chong, Kwok Yu-kan, A. V. Fernandes, R. Esterlin and S. Jex.

Mr. Reynolds said that on Nov. 23 Chan Sam-to, master of a junk left Yim Tim with a crew and 22 passengers bound for Shahtakok. About midway to Shahtakok, when off the island of Ap Chau, the three defendants ordered the master to change course and sail towards Fan Chau Island.

PASSENGERS SEARCHED

First and second accused, each armed with a revolver, were standing in the stern and bow of the vessel, respectively, while the third accused was amidship and, apparently, unarmed. All the passengers were searched by third accused and various amounts of money were taken. At Fan Chau the master was told to stop and second defendant was rowed ashore to get water. When he returned the master was ordered to hoist the sail.

Meanwhile, Chan Sam-tim, son of the junk master, who was in Shahtakok, saw the vessel change course and, becoming suspicious, informed the Police. As a result, a Police launch, under Sgt. Hewitt, approached the junk which they boarded after an exchange of fire. But before the Police boarded first and second accused threw away their revolvers.

When the accused were searched, \$57.30 (Chinese currency) was found on second.

When charged at the Police Station, first accused stated: "I did rob. I have nothing to say." Second stated: "I did not want to take chickens. I wanted money," and the third: "We three went to rob."

ARMY DESERTERS

But at the magisterial proceedings, continued Mr. Reynolds, first accused changed his explanation and gave a statement to the effect that they were deserters from the Chinese Army and had asked to be set on the island.

Pang stated, in evidence, that it was not a case of robbery. He, and the other two accused, were soldiers and had run away from their garrison and were trying to escape into British territory. Being afraid that their superior officer would chase after them, they boarded the junk with the intention of landing at Ap Chau and to put up for the night at the village there before going over to British territory. He denied that he had robbed the passengers.

Mo Yau, also, gave evidence. Questioned by Crown Counsel, accused said that he did not search any of the passengers.

His Lordship, asked Crown Counsel to have first accused medically examined and to obtain a certificate as to whether he will be fit to give evidence.

Hearing was adjourned to this morning.

CLIPPER DUE IN H.K. TODAY

Pan American Airways PHILIPINE CLIPPER, bringing U.S. mails, dated San Francisco, Dec. 10, is due to arrive in Hongkong this afternoon and will leave on her return flight tomorrow morning.

The CHINA CLIPPER is scheduled to arrive in Hongkong on Tuesday next, Dec. 24, and to leave the following morning.

money but finally she was herself victimised by the gang.

The defendant deposed that the whole story was made up in order to avoid being beaten by the complainant.

Det.-Sgt. N. B. Fraser was in charge of the case.

D. O. SOUTH

LARCENY OF CLOTHING

Pleading guilty to larceny of three suits of clothing and a leather purse, property of Ip Sang, a shopkeeper of 83, Tai San Street, first floor, Cheung Chau Island, on Nov. 23, Cheung Man, 28, unemployed, was sentenced to two weeks' hard labour by the Magistrate, Mr. Balfour, at the District Court, South, yesterday. He was also bound over on a sum of \$50 to be of good behaviour for a year.

WILD TREE WOOD

A conviction was registered by Mr. Balfour against Li Po, 40, unemployed, of Tsan Wan, for possession of wild tree wood in Castle Peak Road on Saturday. Defendant was permitted to leave the court on conviction having already been detained two nights in police custody.

HAWKER FINED

Yip Chu, 20, was fined one dollar for hawking cakes without a licence in Chung On Street, near the market, on Sunday.

MARINE COURT

Pleading guilty to a charge of loitering within 100 yards of the seawall of the Royal Naval Dockyard, Hongkong, on Dec. 14, Lo Ho, 40, mistress of Class IV boat No. 1151V, was fined \$7 by Cmdr. J. Jolly at the Marine Court yesterday.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG.

PROBATE JURISDICTION

IN THE GOODS OF WILLIAM LOUIS McKENZIE late of The Hongkong Telephone Company Limited, Exchange Building, Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong, Secretary of the Company, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Court has by virtue of the provisions of Section 58 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1897 made an order limiting the time for creditors and others to send in their claims against the above estate to 6th day of January, 1941.

All Creditors and others are accordingly hereby required to send their claims to the undersigned on or before that date.

DEACONS.

Solicitors for the Executor,
1, Des Voeux Road Central,
Hong Kong.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Certificates 6/NS, 4412 dated Hongkong, 16th January, 1936 for Three shares of this Bank numbered 97994/97996 inclusive registered in the names of Messrs. Manek Roostumjee Mehta and Dhun Manek Mehta has been Lost or Stolen, and should this certificate not be produced to the Bank before the 11th January, 1941, a new certificate for the shares will be issued, and the aforesaid Certificate No. 6/NS, 4412 will be thereafter treated by this Corporation as Null and Void.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
V. M. GRAYBURN,
Chief Manager.

FOUR WEDDINGS AT REGISTRY

The following weddings took place at the Registry, Supreme Court, yesterday, Mr. T. S. Whyte-Smith, Registrar of Marriages, officiated.

Mr. Daniel Yeo Yong Plo, merchant, residing at No. 23, Ice House Street, and Miss Jennie Lim Siew Joo, of No. 774, Nathan Road.

Mr. Lee Tat, teacher, of No. 166, Prince Edward Road, and Miss Ng Wai Hing, of No. 105, Queen's Rd. Central.

Mr. C. A. Mugford, merchant, residing at No. 14, Yim Po Fong Street, Kowloon, and Miss Chan Yu Chen of No. 74, Yu Chow St., Shamshulpo.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following forthcoming weddings are announced:

Mr. Wong Kim Fung, of No. 136, Wanchai Road, and Miss Foon Sau Hang, of No. 71, Leighton Hill Rd.

Mr. Chan Wu Choy, of the Maryknoll House, Stanley, and Miss Wan Wai Fong, of No. 88, Wing Lok Street.

Mr. Tam Hin Wah, shop assistant, residing at No. 32 Kuk Hang Tsun Road, Kowloon City, and Miss Chow Fung Ping, of No. 87, Ta Ku Ling Road, Kowloon City.

DEPARTURES FROM THE COLONY

The following left Hongkong yesterday by the President Jackson:

Mr. C. I. Barr, Mr. H. Guard, Mr. Charles Hollman, Mr. M. A. Johnson, Mrs. Lillian Ada Kiene, Lieut.-Cmdr. A. Lade, Mr. T. A. Peters, Jr., Mr. J. C. Walker, Mr. David Dean Wright, Mrs. N. S. Wotherspoon.

The Daily Press
報西刺刊

Editorial and Business Office:
15-19, Queen's Road Central,
Tel. 30251.
Night Editor (Wanchai Office):
Tel. 24511.
London Office: 53, Fleet Street
E.C.4.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 17, 1940.

NAZI PROPAGANDA

THE VIGOROUS ATTEMPTS which Nazi propaganda is making to show that dissatisfaction prevails in the British dominions and colonies continues to meet with clear and emphatic denials which are supported not only by those who give the lie to these German statements, but by actual facts which prove how far removed from truth are these assertions which Dr. Goebbels and his propaganda machine hope will turn world opinion against the British. The theme of this pernicious propaganda, in which the Italians have now seen fit to join in a vain attempt to compensate them for their utter failure as an efficient fighting factor, is always the same, with little variation. England, according to these propagandists, has for years treated the people of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India and South Africa as serfs. Her interest in these parts of the British Commonwealth is purely for pecuniary gain at the expense of the inhabitants, who are being subjected to the worst forms of oppression and taxation.

RECENTLY, the world was given two decisive examples of how far these statements have deviated from the actual facts. The first of these came from General Smuts, the Premier of South Africa, who was forty years ago a bitter enemy of England. General Smuts, in a speech giving the British Government full assurance of the loyalty of South Africa to the cause for which Britain was fighting, stated that he and his followers had always been treated in a Christian manner by the English. The next lie to the German propagandists came on Sunday from Australia, where Mr. Menzies, the Prime Minister, declared that far from being dissatisfied with British policy, Australia was indissolubly united with the mother country in a firm resolve to see the present struggle through to a successful conclusion. Apart from statements such as these, there is the fact that British, Australian, South African and Indian troops are fighting today shoulder to shoulder in the operations being conducted in the Western Desert. Troops and airmen are pouring in from Canada to join Britain's home forces in ever increasing numbers, while every member of the Commonwealth has placed its full resources at the disposal of the mother country to multiply her war efforts.

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BROKER ACCUSED OF FALSE PRETENCES
\$14,000 Commission On Arms Contract

Hearing of the case in which HENRY CHAO, 37, broker, is charged with obtaining money by false pretences, began yesterday before Mr. G. T. Lowry at the Central Magistrate's Court.

Chao was alleged to have obtained \$14,000 from Wong Bor, proprietor and manager of the Hongkong Sporting Arms Co., No. 22 Pottinger Street, on July 19 by falsely pretending that it had been demanded by the Central Trust of China as commission in connexion with a certain contract, then being negotiated between Wong and the Central Trust of China.

Mr. W. A. Mackinlay appeared for the prosecution, while Mr. F. I. Zimmerman was for the defence.

In evidence, complainant said that the contract called for an order of 100 anti-aircraft machine-guns. The next he heard about the order was on July 12, when defendant verbally indicated to him that prior to the signing of the contract, he had to pay some commission—five per cent. of the total sum to the Central Trust. He handed \$2,000 to defendant.

The contract was actually signed on July 15, subject to the condition that a letter of credit was open to the supplier and manufacturer.

On July 19, defendant called at his office and asked for the balance of the commission. Witness paid him \$12,500, the balance of the commission.

Complainant said that he heard nothing from the Central Trust regarding the order until October, and found out that defendant had kept the money himself.

ALLEGED PROMISE
Subsequently, complainant suggested that the parties go to the Central Trust to clear up the matter. Defendant promised to pay back \$10,000 per month.

The matter was left over until Nov. 15 when defendant asked for a few more days to raise the money.

Explaining that one of the conditions of the contract stipulated that a letter of credit of only U. S. \$40,000, or one third of the contract price, was to be borne by the Central Trust, while on the other hand a full amount was required by the manufacturers.

Mr. Zimmerman asked complainant whether, or not, payment of money to defendant was meant as a bribe so that a letter of credit of the full sum could be obtained. Defendant replied in the negative.

Asked why no receipt was obtained from defendant, complainant replied that it was not customary.

The hearing was adjourned until Thursday, at 11.30 a.m.

NEWSETTES
The Hongkong University Union will hold their first annual gymnastic and drill display in the Eu Tong Sen Gymnasium on Saturday next, Dec. 21, at 9 p.m.

An emergency meeting has been summoned for this evening by the Executive Committee of the Hongkong Chinese General Chamber of Commerce to discuss the conditions prevailing in the rice market.

An Exposition of Chinese Calligraphy will be held under the joint auspices of the Association for the Advancement of Chinese Culture and the Sino-British Cultural Association in the Fung Ping Shan Library on Friday, Dec. 20, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Mr. William Vinson Lee, Regional Director Emeritus for China, who recently returned from a six-month combined business and vacation trip to British Malaya, will speak on "The Chinese in Malaya" at the Y's Men's Club luncheon meeting at St. Francis Hotel on Thursday, Dec. 19.

The 13th annual Christmas concert of the Hongkong University Christian Association will be held in the University Great Hall on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 9 p.m. Mr. Rupert Baldwin, A. T. C. L., will be the conductor and Miss Caroline Braga, F. T. C. L., will be at the piano. There will be community singing and carols.

It was erroneously stated yesterday that Mrs. Elizabeth Newton, wife of Major W. Newton, and her two sons, had arrived in Hongkong on Saturday by the California Clipper, from Honolulu. The error was due to a mistake in the passenger list handed out by Pan American Airways.

SALE OF CROWN LAND
EXCEEDINGLY KEEN BIDDING

Exceedingly keen bidding was seen at the Crown Land sales, conducted by Mr. B. H. C. Hallows, Assistant Superintendent of Surveys, at the Public Works Department, yesterday when three lots were sold by public auction.

The first lot, situated at the junction of Un Chau Street and Cheong Fat Street, Cheung-shan-wan, known as N.K.L.L. No. 2833, with an area of 4,080 square feet, was knocked down to Mr. Chan Tsun-thing of the Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., for \$3,750—or an increase of nearly 50 per cent. on the upset price of \$2,448.

The next lot realised over three times its upset price of \$3,000 when it was ultimately held to the Dor Fook Co., Ltd., of No. 52, Wing Lok Street, for \$9,300. The area of this lot, registered as R.E.L. 440 and situated opposite the Blind Home, Pokfulam Road, is 15,000 square feet.

UPSET PRICE
There being no bids for the next lot—R.E.L. 4298, situated at the junction of Kowloon City Road and Ching Lung Street, Kau Pui Shek, Kowloon City, with an area of 1,179 square feet—it was sold to the applicant, Mrs. Constance Bird Fox of No. 50, Nga Tan Wai Road, at the upset price of \$884.

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ANNUAL DINNER
DANCE

St. John's University Alumni Association

The Hongkong Branch of the St. John's University Alumni Association will hold its annual dinner dance at the Ritz, North Point, on Saturday, Dec. 21, from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

A most enjoyable programme of varied cabaret items to be rendered by popular local artists has been arranged. As an added attraction, balloons and toys will be distributed.

It is anticipated that the function will be well attended as there are about 200 alumni of the university in Hongkong. Their relatives and friends will be warmly welcomed.

Tickets at \$2.50 each are obtainable from Mr. Koma Cheu, National Carbon Co., French Bank Bldg., Mr. H. S. Yung, Dumbur, Lambert and Co., Hongkong Bank Bldg., Mr. H. H. Tsang, South China Leather Goods Manufacturing Co., Pottinger Street, Mr. K. L. Ho, Tai Tung Sports Goods Co., On Lan Street, and Mr. C. B. Chang, Central News Agency, Bank of East Asia Bldg.

P.I. EDITOR FINED FOR LIBEL

The Manila supreme court on Dec. 8 affirmed a decision of the court of appeals, holding Pedro M. Blanco, publisher and editor of Commonwealth Advocate, guilty of a charge of libel and imposing upon him a fine of P200, with subsidiary imprisonment in case of insolvency. The resolution of the high tribunal was written by Justice Anacleto Diaz.

Blanco was prosecuted on complaint of Leopoldo R. Aguinado, prominent Filipino businessman and head of the L. R. Aguinado and Sons, whom he referred to, according to the supreme court, as "an instrument of the Japanese in their insidious penetration in the commerce and industry of the Philippines"; that such he violated the articles of the corporation law and the constitution.

The alleged libelous phrases directed against Aguinado were contained in an editorial of the Commonwealth Advocate entitled: "L. R. Aguinado, a Japanese Tool." The editorial was published in the Advocate's issue of February 1935.

EXAMINATION FOR MASTERS

Dates Released By Harbour Office

Dates during 1941 to which candidates may sit for examinations for Certificates of Competency as Masters, Mates and Engineers were released by the Harbour Office on Saturday.

The examinations will be held on the second or third Tuesday of every month on the following dates:—January 14, February 18, March 18, April 22, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 18, October 14, November 18 and Dec. 15.

Candidates for Examinations for Certificates of Competency for Masters should present their papers to the Examiner at the Harbour Office at 10 a.m. on the Saturday preceding the examination.

Candidates for Examinations for Certificates of Competency for First and Second Class Engineers should present their papers to the Examiner at the Principal Surveyor of Ships' Office, at 9.30 a.m. at least three days before the examination.

B. W. O. F.

The following is the latest list of subscriptions received to date for credit of the British War Organisation Fund:—

Previously acknowledged, £100 and \$617,356.27.
A. H. Guinness (monthly) £20, D. G. Day (monthly) 15, Razon Trading Co. (monthly) 10, A. M. Kennedy (monthly) 30, Sale of 1 bandage, roller per Madame Renaud 5, Sale of 1 C.H.S.S. badge per Mrs. H. F. Phillips 1, Sale of knitting wool per Mrs. T. E. Pearce 6.80, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Hall (monthly) 50, D. E. Clark (monthly), 50, Joseph Prentice (monthly) 25, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Horden (monthly) 10.
Total: \$618,179.07.

WESTERN DESERT:

GREAT VARIETY OF COUNTRY WHERE BRITISH FORCES ARE NOW OPERATING

A DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTRY IN THE WESTERN DESERT, over which the British Imperial Forces are operating, was given recently in a broadcast from London.

One is inclined to think, said the speaker, that the Western Desert is like the Gobi or the Sahara desert, but this is not the case. In the Western Desert there is a great variety of country, from loam soil to rock and sand.

THE ROAD FROM ALEXANDRIA TO SOULUM starts with a cobbled road and passes a small town to an old fort. It is here that one says good-bye to Egypt proper.

FERTILE RED LOAM

The soil of the Western Desert, near the coast, consists of a fertile red loam, which was the granary of ancient Imperial Rome. Good barley is grown here and there is excellent cover for quail. In the spring there are plenty of flowers and corn, while figs and olives are grown. There are no trees, as the local inhabitants burn them.

The road then runs west to Soum, 200 miles distant and so close to the coast that it is never out of range of our naval guns. When going along this road, one sees practically nobody, as the local inhabitants are so well concealed. The reason for this is the blood feuds which still exist and, in modern times, this is paid for in kind. For instance, a murder costs £300, paid for in camels on the spot.

In the spring one sees more of the Arabs, with flocks of sheep and herds of cattle, which they drive eastwards from Libya. So skilfully are they driven that when they reach Alexandria, they are still fat and quite ready for the market.

THE RAILWAY

The railway runs parallel with the road and is 130 miles long to Mirkan Matruh. At Sidi Barrani, which is very much in the news just now, there is no town, but just a few red brick barracks, in which the Egyptian Coast Guard Camel Corps is stationed.

Here the ground is full of small scrub, difficult for motor, traffic and at Bug-Bug, 20 miles further west, the escarpment begins to rise and is 500 feet high at Soum. Here there is a very steep road up the escarpment, called "Hell Fire Path."

So far, the coast road is the only one in the Western Desert. From Soum to the south there is a fair road for 200 miles to the oasis of Sewa, where there is plenty of water, but there is no water between these two points. South of Sewa the road dives abruptly, after a rise of 100 feet. The climate generally is good. In the winter one has fires and sunshine all day. At present, it is probably very dusty.

Red Amazons Harass Vichy

VICHY, Dec. 5.—The French police today discovered the existence of a flying battalion of militant Amazon communists—cold-blooded, quick-shooting, icy-nerved women between 25 and 35 years of age, who are believed to have been working under cover for some time.

These female communists are blamed for the tremendous agitation surrounding clandestine attempts to revive prescribed activities.

The Bolshevik Amazons, chiefly eastern Europeans—Poles, Czechs, and Russians—were believed to have entered France when the war started and established themselves in various major centers during the confusion arising from the great retreat from Paris.

The Bolshevik Amazons, arrested so far include Rochma Ostrowsky, who came from Poland, Ida Rosensteln and Olga Milinska.

The police, however, have started no organized hunt for the women communists because they generally move frequently and work independently.

HARBOR COLLISION

A collision between Police Motor-boat No. 12 and the steam launch Ta Ku Yeung, belonging to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, occurred on Saturday in the Harbour near No. 14 Buoy. The motor-boat was slightly damaged, but no one was injured.

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT—

LONDON'S HEALTH:

THE HEALTH OF LONDONERS IN AIR RAID SHELTERS was discussed by a medical practitioner recently in a broadcast talk from London.

According to his estimate, a million-and-a-half persons sleep in air raid shelters or underground protection. Up to a short time ago, the shelters were so overcrowded that, instead of having 600 cubic feet of air, in many cases only 50 cubic feet were available.

Ventilation, he declared, was most important, but unfortunately, stuffiness to raise warmth was most popular. Air, to be healthy, had of course to be kept on the move, as had air caused infections and epidemics such as measles and influenza become prevalent. What was necessary was more shelters and dispersal by evacuation. The chief enemies to health were dirt, lice, bugs and fleas; all of whom carry infection. Lavatory accommodation, however, was being improved.

Medical officers now visit each shelter daily for inspection, and also every night, inquiring if there are any complaints.

The provision of air raid shelters for a million-and-a-half people is a colossal problem and it was a case of "head and knees down—china up."

SHANGHAI:

THE ROADS ROUND THE INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT which were closed for some time, have now been opened. The whole question is just a matter of "squeeze." For instance, the China Club, which is more or less a gambling racket, and another institution, were asked to pay up an extra half-a-million dollars as "squeeze" money. They refused to do this at first, but finally paid the sum to the Tatao police and now the roads have been opened up again and the blockade lifted.

CHARLIE KUNZ:

CHARLIE KUNZ, the well-known pianist, was recently described as "the most dramatic of our key-board kings."

POLICE TRAPS FOR SPEED MERCHANTS

Action is to be taken by the Traffic Police, against Colombo's speed merchants, in view of the increase in motor accidents.

Mr. G. S. Baker, Superintendent of Police, Colombo, stated that the reduced speed limit of 34.61 miles per hour will in future be strictly enforced. This speed gives an allowance of 4.61 m.p.h. over the legal speed limit.

It will be remembered that some time back only those motorists who exceeded 40.9 m.p.h. were prosecuted. This was subsequently reduced to 37.5 m.p.h., but as accidents continue to increase the limit at which prosecutions are being launched is brought nearer the legal speed limit.

THE DANGEROUS HOURS

Particular action is to be taken against those who are in the habit of speeding to and from their offices in the morning and evening and during the lunch hour.

As was pointed out in the accident report for the last three-quarters of the year, the peak hours for accidents are 9 a.m., 1 p.m., 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.

At the same time action will also be taken against bad cases of crossing gazetted white lines.

GEN. MALETTI'S CRACK DESERT FIGHTERS WIPED OUT

SIDI BARRANI, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—I have just arrived in Sidi Barrani after two days of travel across the desert by the 200-mile route followed by our mechanised forces at the beginning of their drive into Libya, writes Reuter's Special correspondent in the Western Desert.

ROME RADIO ON LIBYA DEBACLE

Still Confident Of Final Victory

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—After its announcement on Saturday that the situation was "serious but not catastrophic," Rome Radio yesterday plucked up more courage and congratulated the British putting up such a good show.

The announcer said: "We always thought that the British would not give us a good fight and thus deprive our final victory of glory." The German press, which for weeks maintained an exaggerated indifference to the plight of Italians, assured the German people that all would come right in the end. The Voelkische Beobachter said: "In German opinion, the situation in Greece and Egypt gives no ground for anxiety."

NAZI ASSISTANCE

BASLE, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—According to the Wilhelmstrasse, the unfavourable turn in Italian operations in Albania and Egypt will not influence German military decisions or lead Germany to give Italy active assistance, says the Berlin correspondent of the Basler Nachrichten.

Germany, he adds, is tenaciously sticking to her plan to seek a final decision against Britain in the British Isles themselves.

25 KILLED IN RAIL CRASH

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—About 25 people were killed and at least 46 fatally injured when a repair train was derailed on a sharp curve near Iguala, capital of Guerrero State.

After leaving the track the train crashed from the steep incline over a precipice.

"Day's Work" Accounts For 21 Definite Victories

LONDON, Dec. 16 (BWS)—A pilot officer D.S.C. recently awarded the D.S.O. in the field, who has shot down over twenty aircraft over Britain, gave a thrilling account of a "day's work" in a broadcast from London yesterday.

"We were up early in the morning," he said. "We hadn't long to wait before I was told to take off and climb over the Channel. Soon we ran across a squadron of German fighters and in a few seconds the sky was full of both of us. I had a quick bang at one and then at another."

"Then I made a turn 'up sun' and joined two aircraft that were climbing when I discovered I was following two Messerschmitts 109 fighters at only a few yards distance. In fact I was forming on them."

FIRE BOMBS ON NORTH-EAST TOWN

Widespread German Night Raids

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The daylight hours of Sunday passed without a single bomb being dropped on any part of England but nightfall brought the capital the usual alert.

The main weight of the raid, however, appeared to be concentrated on a town in north-east England though towns in the south-west were also visited.

The widespread German air activity over Britain last night ended early. London and a north-east town were both clear of raids before midnight.

Relatively few bombs fell in London and although many fire bombs and high explosives were dropped on the north-east town the attack was on nothing like the scale of the earlier provincial "blitz" raids.

British Advance Forces Operating Inside Libya

Continued from Page 1

The R.A.F. and the Fleet Air Arm have also bombed points along the Libyan coast, as far as Tripoli. Four tons of bombs were dropped in the course of the night on that town and three direct hits were registered on ships which had been drawn up alongside the pier.

This is stated to be the most notable air achievement of the operations in Africa. The R.A.F. joined the Navy in the attack on Bardia.

The Italians have lost 24 aircraft, 18 of which fell to one fighter squadron. The R.A.F. mastery of the air can be seen from small losses sustained by the British planes, only three of which failed to return and one of these is thought to be safe on the British side of the line.

R.A.F. planes also attacked Naples and Cotrone, an important harbour on the gulf of Taranto.

DASHING CAVALRY MAN

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The commanding officer of the armoured divisions in the Western Desert campaign is Major-General Michael Creagh, it is revealed. Maj. Gen. Creagh is described as a dashing cavalry man with a thorough knowledge of his job. He was formerly in the 7th Hussars.

Small advances by the Greeks are also announced. Although Tepelini is not yet in Greek hands, it looks as if the Greek forces in the neighbourhood are working round to take it, it is stated.

Blackshirts and Libyans alike surrendered or fled, leaving between 3,000 and 400 prisoners in our hands. Those who fled westwards were mopped up by British armoured forces operating on Bugbug.

"EXCITING SHOW"

A Major described it as "an exciting show" and added the Italians fought pretty well and on the whole stuck to their guns well against our tanks.

After the battle, General Galina, who with two other generals were among the prisoners captured.

Thai Seeks Settlement Of Incidents

CHUNGKING, Dec. 16 (Central)—A Thai communique states that the Thai Government is ready to settle the border incidents with the French Indo-China Government by pacific means, according to a dispatch from Bangkok.

The communique adds that the Thai Government wishes the joint Border Commission will make preparations for the first meeting. The Commission was scheduled to meet last October but owing to the tension the meeting was not held.

"All that was between six and seven—a total of seven altogether—were destroyed."

"The score at 9 a.m. was ten Germans destroyed, our losses being three machines hit and needing repair and one pilot baled out."

"Soon we were told to proceed to a convoy and patrol it."

"One of the night commanders thought the enemy had already attacked the convoy and were on the way back, and gave chase only to discover they were coming towards him and before he could slow up he had gone right through the centre of them with the other two members of his section blazing away."

"This shook the German pilots so much that they immediately broke formation. German fighter-bombers started forming one of their famous defensive circles."

FINAL CHECK-UP.

"Checking up the figures we found a total of 20 enemy aircraft had been destroyed."

"After lunch we went up again. We saw in the distance about 20 dive-bombers and a fighter escort going in the direction of a convoy. We were able to close with the fighter escort."

"I gave chase to a straggler. I got in a burst of machine-gun fire. He dived and I followed, giving him another burst, when the pilot jumped out. The machine crashed into the beach, bursting into flames."

"Back at our aerodrome we found the squadron had attacked 38 enemy aircraft of which 21 were definitely destroyed."

After making the statement about the need for planes and equipment for air operations and the value of a single fighter in comparison to 200 men armed with rifles, the speaker said that this raised the question of providing

ammunition for the fighter planes.

"If we did not have these modern weapons," he said, "we could not have so successfully beaten the enemy in the Western Desert."

The speaker paid a tribute to the vigilance which British reconnaissance planes had kept on the enemy and how the fighters had kept watch on the preparations of the British forces to see that enemy reconnaissance planes did not come over and discover what they were doing. The British armoured forces, he said, had learned desert warfare like a book.

350 PLANES DOWNED

Since the war started in the Middle East, 350 enemy planes had been destroyed in the air and nearly as many on the ground and the British planes had carried out three times as many raids as the enemy. One of the most splendid shows put up was by the 8. African Air Force, which had bombed and destroyed 800 enemy motor transports.

The speaker said that he supposed that Italian aircraft were as good as those used by the British. The Italian machines were very similar to the Gladiator planes, though the British were using more modern types. The only modern bomber the Italians had was the B.79 which had been exploited in typical Italian manner. Italian air activity had not been so spectacular, but they were increasing their efficiency.

WAR GIFTS

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—Further war gifts were announced yesterday.

Madras has sent a further £15,000 for fighter aircraft while the Maharajah of Gwalior made a further gift of £18,750 represented by 25 armoured carriers.

(The Lord Mayor of London's Air Raid Fund, which now stands at £1,673,000, received further gifts yesterday of £1,000 each from the readers of the Times of Ceylon and from the Rangoon Corporation.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR LOTHIAN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The funeral services for Lord Lothian were held with full honours at Washington Cathedral yesterday afternoon.

United States Cavalry escorted the caisson bearing the body from the Embassy to the Cathedral through avenues cleared of traffic by hundreds of police and lined with a silent crowd.

President Roosevelt, who is spending the week-end at Warm Springs, Georgia, after his Caribbean cruise, was represented at the service by his Secretary, Mr. Stephen Early. Mrs. Roosevelt attended personally.

Mr. Neville Butler, Charge d'Affaires at the British Embassy, represented the King and Lord Athlone and Mr. Mackenzie King were also represented. Members of the Diplomatic Corps and many high officials were present.

The private cremation was held later in the afternoon at another service at the Church.

CHINESE TEA FOR MOSCOW

SHANGHAI, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The first Soviet ship to arrive at Hongkong to transport Chinese tea destined for Moscow to fulfil the \$100,000,000 barter obligations, for which negotiations have just been concluded, has reached the British Colony from Vladivostok according to the Chinese Press.

In order to obtain Soviet cash and material, China, on her part, will hereafter concentrate on tea "bricks," said to be tea welcomed by Soviets at Hongkong and Soviet ships will arrive in the Colony regularly to transport these to Russia.

Soviet goods destined for China will come through the Sino-Russian highway.

WINES for CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

We have ample stocks available of wines to suit everyone's particular taste and also everyone's purse.

A Price List will be sent on application

to us at

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Nos. 20075 and 30644.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO., LTD.

ESTABLISHED 1884.

THE LEADING WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS IN THE FAR EAST.

Untiring Labours Of Lothian

LONDON, Dec. 16 (British Wire)—Mr. Mackenzie King, Canadian Prime Minister, has received a message from the King thanking him for the message of sympathy sent on behalf of the Canadian Government on the death of Lord Lothian.

His Majesty's message, after expressing his thanks, said: "Lord Lothian, by his untiring labours in the interests of Anglo-American friendship, has earned our wholehearted gratitude. His loss will be widely mourned on both sides of the Atlantic."

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR LOTHIAN

CAISSON ESCORTED BY U.S. CAVALRY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The funeral services for Lord Lothian were held with full honours at Washington Cathedral yesterday afternoon.

United States Cavalry escorted the caisson bearing the body from the Embassy to the Cathedral through avenues cleared of traffic by hundreds of police and lined with a silent crowd.

President Roosevelt, who is spending the week-end at Warm Springs, Georgia, after his Caribbean cruise, was represented at the service by his Secretary, Mr. Stephen Early. Mrs. Roosevelt attended personally.

Mr. Neville Butler, Charge d'Affaires at the British Embassy, represented the King and Lord Athlone and Mr. Mackenzie King were also represented. Members of the Diplomatic Corps and many high officials were present.

The private cremation was held later in the afternoon at another service at the Church.

CHINESE TEA FOR MOSCOW

SHANGHAI, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The first Soviet ship to arrive at Hongkong to transport Chinese tea destined for Moscow to fulfil the \$100,000,000 barter obligations, for which negotiations have just been concluded, has reached the British Colony from Vladivostok according to the Chinese Press.

In order to obtain Soviet cash and material, China, on her part, will hereafter concentrate on tea "bricks," said to be tea welcomed by Soviets at Hongkong and Soviet ships will arrive in the Colony regularly to transport these to Russia.

Soviet goods destined for China will come through the Sino-Russian highway.

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Silver... Dept

The WING ON LTD

British Army Waited For Chance In Egypt And Took It Magnificently

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—In this war the British Army has had long to wait for its chance; declares the DAILY TELEGRAPH in a leader on the great victory in the Western Desert.

The British Expeditionary Force, serving under French Command, was placed in a position from which only honours of stubborn retreat could be won. Its first opportunity has come in Egypt and has been seized with vigour, resolution and competence which has convinced the world that on land, no less than on the sea and in the air, the might of British warfare is deadly.

Each message from the front increases the importance of the operations. General Sir Archibald Wavell predicted that the crushing de-

feat of the Italian forces in Libya would have an incalculable effect upon the military situation everywhere and the future of the world.

SITUATION TRANSFORMED

How completely destructive the defeat may become we cannot yet judge but already it is shattering and the situation in Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean is transformed.

The prestige of the Fascist system lies in ruins. Italy itself is rumbling with earthquake shocks.

The battle in the Western Desert may well, as Gen. Wavell calculated, shorten the war by very many months. If our army has waited long for its chance, the chance has been magnificently taken.

LAMMERTS' AUCTIONS

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WAR AREA POLITICAL INSTITUTE

With a view to training a competent personnel for political work in the war areas, the authorities of the 3rd War Zone have established a United Provisional Political Institute at Tsungshan in northern Fukien.

The Institute has been formally opened and its inauguration ceremony was attended by a large gathering of local officials. (Central News).

Burma Road Bombed By Japanese

KUNMING, Dec. 16 (Central).—A Japanese scouting plane reconnoitred along the Yunnan section of the Burma Road yesterday morning. Two hours after the reconnoissance, eight Japanese planes made their appearance over western Yunnan. Scores of bombs were released at a point on the Burma Road.

The air raid alarm was sounded in Kunming at 7.40 a.m. and the "all clear" given at 2.20 p.m.

Heavy Japanese Losses On China Fronts In Week

CHUNGKING, Dec. 16 (Central).—Reviewing the military situation in the past week at a Press conference, the Chinese military spokesman said that following their recent debacle in northern Hupeh, the Japanese forces are now in a helpless situation, neither able to launch a fresh offensive in China nor daring to embark upon their much-publicised southward expansion plan in view of the Anglo-American co-operation in the Far East. Consequently, a stalemate has resulted on the entire China war front.

Discussing the military operations, the spokesman said that the Japanese had suffered severe losses on the various fronts during the past week. On the Hupeh-Hunan front, the Japanese at Chenglingki and Yangkouze in northern Hunan were recently repeatedly attacked, resulting in more than 200 casualties and the Japanese barracks at the Lingshi Station on the Canton-Hankow Railway and a military depot at the Yunkai Station were both destroyed by fire set by Chinese troops.

In Hupeh, the Chinese carried out mopping-up operations on the two banks of the Jiang River. Several strategic points including Chihusuan between Kiangsi and Tanyang and Nanchang north of Kiangsi were captured. In Szechwan, more than 4,000 Japanese dead were cremated and over 2,000 wounded soldiers moved to Yunnan for hospitalization. One Japanese unit pushing towards Shensi was ambushed by the Chinese and suffered heavy losses, while some 300 casualties were inflicted on the Japanese based on Yachuehling (Hui) east of Ichang as a result of Chinese attacks.

REPEATED ASSAULTS
In Shensi and Honan, Chinese troops in the past few days made repeated assaults on various cities on the Tung-Pu Railway including Wenai, Kanhsien, Hsianghsien, Anyi and Chuvu. In southern Shensi, resulting over 1,000 casualties and the destruction of numerous convoys of Japanese military trains. The Japanese at Chingcheng were attacked on three sides. One Japanese detachment

Portugal—Oasis Of Europe: Humanitarian Spirit

"Portugal has become an oasis in Europe. To its friendly rule thousands of refugees have flocked for safety; some have, like birds of passage, stayed but a short time, others, destitute or nearly so, have remained and Portugal is shouldering the burden."

The above is a passage from a talk which was broadcast in Chinese yesterday evening from Z.B.W. on the subject of "Portugal's Humanitarian Spirit."

Lisbon has become a great world terminus through which travellers between the Eastern and the Western Hemispheres almost inevitably pass. They may be coming from almost anywhere in untravelled and dislocated Europe, but the chances are that they take Lisbon on the way to the West.

Especially is this the case with refugees. During the past three months they have arrived by sea and land, by boat and bicycle, by train and on foot, from every country invaded or threatened by the Nazi scourge. Some have even come from Africa or the Far East.

PEACEFUL HAVEN

Many would be content to remain in this peaceful haven and others to push on; but in most cases lack of means dictates their future and a large and growing number have become a financial burden on the country.

As can be imagined, it is not only the city itself that is crowded with these unfortunate people, but every town and village within reach is packed with stragglers of many races. A cosmopolitan crowd thrown together in a haphazard array.

A few can establish themselves, but those who cannot are not left to starve. Some countries in a similar position might have dealt callously with them and turned them out declaring that they had not the wherewithal to feed them.

PLAGUE FROM BERLIN

Callousness has spread from Berlin like a plague over Europe and reached the very confines of Portugal but this ugly trait has not been allowed to enter the country.

The people have utterly refused to think callousness is strength as the Nazi doctrine would have us believe and the refugees are fed.

SHINING RECORD

The Portuguese Government and the Portuguese people have earned a shining record for themselves. The natural kindness of the inhabitants, supported by administrative efficiency, has brought hope and succour.

Many stories are told which, in this unhappy Nazi ridden Europe,

shine as a light. One case is quoted where 500 British refugees were quartered in a small town some distance from the capital. The entire population turned out to help them. Many hotel keepers gave food, and house-room on a promise of payment only.

In Lisbon it is said that taxmen, who have vainly driven their fares from one overcrowded hotel to another, have ended in housing them themselves.

Many Poles, Dutch, Belgian and Czechs have to thank Portuguese hospitality for the chance to make arrangements at leisure to find a permanent home.

JUMPING OFF PLACE

Apart from these poorer refugees, Lisbon has become the jumping off place between Britain and the United States and many a percentage of importance has spent some days in Portugal's capital awaiting an opportunity to go further.

The Portuguese are indeed performing a humanitarian work which does them honour, and which shows that the spirit of kindness still burns strongly in at least one corner of war-torn and fear-ridden Europe.

AMAZON REGION'S FUTURE

NEW QUESTION OF DEFENCE

The purpose of President Getulio Vargas's visit to the Amazon region was twofold. He wished to ascertain the possibilities afforded by the Amazon for the defence of the Americas, economically and otherwise, and to find out what was retarding the growth of the rich Amazon Valley.

"Here in the extreme north of Brazil, feeling the weight of its immense potential wealth that attracts greed and arouses the appetites of absorption, the impression grows that this responsibility is one that may not be eluded," the President said. "On us, a young people, is imposed the enormous responsibility of civilizing and populating millions of square miles."

After he had made this statement the President suggested a conference to bring together those nations touching on the Amazon Valley region—Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia and Brazil. He apparently had in mind an effort to eradicate ill feelings, like those that may have arisen over frontier matters, and perhaps an agreement on common defence.

AMERICA'S RIVER

"The waters of the Amazon are continental," Mr. Vargas said. "It is therefore typically the American river. Under the impact of our will and labour it shall become the equivalent of other great rivers and thus be a chapter in the history of civilization."

On his trip President Vargas analyzed the doings of the State government, looked into the budget and asked questions about what was being done to improve the economic situation.

The Amazon State economic and financial picture is entirely out of focus, the President said. Once among the richest States in Brazil, it now shoulders heavy internal and external debts and is unable to pay either.

Speaking at Manaus and other cities he visited, Mr. Vargas said that he contemplated immediate steps to deal with the chaotic economic situation. He promised State officials that the Federal Government was ready to liquidate the internal State debt and enable the State to start with a clean slate.

He declared that it was wrong to permit the rich lands of the Amazon valley to remain idle and agreed to speed up plans for the repopulation of the entire Amazon region with Brazilian farmers.

Land would be given to the farmers for production of rice, jute, oil-bearing nuts and cultivated Brazilian nuts.

The entire plan may cost about \$25,000,000.

A factory at Pucallpa was destroyed by fire resulting in the loss of more than \$300,000.

H.K. POLICE RESERVE

Orders by the Hon. Mr. C. G. Ferrius, Acting Commissioner of Police

CHINESE COMPANY

Strength. Constable Rill Lee Tuk Yan has been taken on the strength of the Chinese Company, as from December 7, 1940.

Training Course—Part II. Those detailed will attend Company Headquarters for instruction in Part II of Training Course under Sub-Inspector (R) Chan Chung Tung on Thursday, December 13 at 17.30 hours sharp.

Training Course—Part III. Those detailed will attend Prince's Building, 1st Floor, for Part III of Training Course under Police Sergeant R30 Thong Po Hing each evening except Thursday, December 19, at 17.15 hours sharp commencing from Monday, December 18.

Patrol Duty. Patrol duties will be carried out as ordered.

INDIAN COMPANY

Inspection Parade. All ranks of the "A" Company will parade at Central Police Station on Tuesday, December 17 and 20 at 17.15 hours sharp for a general inspection of equipment etc. by the Company Commander. Dress—Blue Uniform, Cap with White Cover, Belt with Brace, Whistle and Chain, and Truncheon. "Pocket-Policeman" and Note-Book to be carried. The Equipment Officer will make it a point of being present.

Training Course—Part II. The undermentioned members qualified in Part II of Training Course on Tuesday, December 17, December 18 and 19, 1940—Constables R398 Mohamed Dawood, and R300 Payara Singh.

Patrol Duty. Patrol duties will be carried out as ordered.

FLYING SQUAD

Inspection Parade. All ranks of the Flying Squad will parade at Central Police Station on Friday, December 20 at 17.30 hours sharp for a general inspection of equipment etc. by the Company Commander. Dress—Blue Uniform, Cap with White Cover, Belt with Brace, Whistle and Chain, and Truncheon. "Pocket-Policeman" and Note-Book to be carried. The Equipment Officer will make it a point of being present.

Patrol Duty. Patrol duties will be carried out as ordered.

EMERGENCY UNIT RESERVE

Inspection Parade. All ranks of the "A" Company will parade at Central Police Station on Monday, December 24 at 17.00 hours sharp for a general inspection of equipment etc. by the Company Commander. Dress—Blue Uniform, Cap with White Cover, Belt with Brace, Whistle and Chain, and Truncheon. "Pocket-Policeman" and Note-Book to be carried. The Equipment Officer will make it a point of being present.

A group photograph will be taken at 17.00 hours when members of the "B" Company should be present.

Training Course—Part II. A lecture will be given at No. 2 Police Station on Wednesday, December 18 at 17.15 hours sharp by Inspector (R) J. A. Bendaal. An examination in Part II of Training Course will be held by the Principal, Police Training School at No. 2 Police Station on Thursday, and Friday, December 21 and 22 at 17.50 hours sharp. Members will be detailed on December 18 regarding their time to appear for the examination.

Patrol Duty. Patrol duties will be carried out as ordered.

O. EAGER.

D. O. P. (R).

Hongkong, Dec. 16, 1940.

CHINA DIRECTORY PUBLISHED

The Soviet Far Eastern Institute in Moscow has published a China Directory for the convenience of those who wish to travel in China.

Airline from the history of China, the book also gives detailed descriptions of the economic, political, industrial, agricultural and cultural conditions of the country, written by experts. (Central News).

Suiyuan Denounces Puppet Wang

WEST SUIYUAN, Dec. 16 (Central).—The Suiyuan Provincial Government headed by General Tiao-ti has issued a circular telegram denouncing Wang Chingwei for styling himself President of the National Government and signing a treaty with the Japanese. It declared that the 2,000,000 Chinese and Mongols in Suiyuan are determined to rid off the arch-traitor.

Chungking To Celebrate New Year

Elaborate Programme Mapped Out

CHUNGKING, Dec. 16 (Central).—People in Chungking are enthusiastically making preparations to welcome the New Year.

An elaborate programme has been mapped out. Meetings will be held at four different places to the co-capital. A joint review of the San Min Chu I Youth Corps, boy scouts and girl guides will take place in the morning when Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek will take the salute and make an address.

An arts exhibition will be held by the Chinese National Arts Association, while ball games and other sports will be sponsored by the City Physical Education Association. Motion pictures on war themes will be shown and plays of a similar nature will be performed.

LANTERN PARADE

Climaxing the New Year's Day programme will be a mammoth lantern parade in the evening.

On Jan. 2, 1941, under the leadership of the National Relief Association, the National Women's Relief Association, and the Boy Scouts Association, 40 "comfort" corps will visit the wounded soldiers and the families of soldiers and distribute "comfort" articles and funds to them.

From New Year's Day to Jan. 3, entertainments will be held free for the soldiers and their families.

New Year greetings will be sent out to soldiers at the front and overseas Chinese by the National Relief Association.

HAN MIN HIGH SCHOOL

The Han Min High School, which was established in memory of the late Mr. Hui Han-min, veteran Kuomintang leader and statesman, will soon have a new building. To finance the construction of the new premises, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek has appropriated \$20,000 which is being remitted to Kwelling by Mr. Liang Han-chao, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the school. (Central News).

Gen. Ho To Assume Command Of Gendarmerie

Gen. Ho Kuo-quang, until recently Secretary-General of the Szechwan Provincial Government, who has been appointed to the post of Commander of the National Gendarmerie Force, left for Chungking by air to assume his new post.

Gen. Ho was given a hearty send-off by a large gathering of military and civil leaders including Gen. Chang Chun, newly-installed Chairman of Szechwan; Gen. Liu Wen-hui, Chairman of Sikong; Gen. Ten Hsi-hou, Pacification Commissioner for Szechwan and Sikong, and Mr. Pan Wen-hua, ex-Mayor of Chengtu.

Interviewed by a Central News correspondent prior to his departure, Gen. Ho said that he had been in Szechwan for the past six years during which the province has made considerable progress. Although he was leaving Chengtu, Gen. Ho added, he would be ready to be of assistance at any time in the building up of a New Szechwan. (Central News).

3,307 OVERSEAS CHINESE RETURN

A total of 3,307 overseas Chinese returned to Fukien while only 809 natives left for foreign countries in November, according to information from the Amoy Overseas Affairs Bureau. None of those who left went to French Indo-China and Thailand where there many Fukien natives are residing. (Central News).

Canadian Minister Safe

OTTAWA, Dec. 16 (Reuter).—Mr. Beaverbrook informed the Canadian authorities that Mr. C. D. Howe, Canadian Minister for Munitions and Supply, who is on board the British liner WESTERN PRINCE (10,928 tons) which is reported to have been torpedoed 400 miles north-west of the Irish coast on Saturday, is safe.

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P.A.A. AIR LINK WITH SINGAPORE TO TIGHTEN ANGLO-U.S. BOND

Pan American Airways, linking America by air with the Far East, now is contemplating a service from Manila to Singapore over a route which avoids territories under Japanese influence, such as Hainan Island and French Indo-China, writes Rear-Admiral Yates Stirling, J.R., in the Manila Bulletin.

There is no intimation that this move is political, but it is a fact that it will bring the British fortress and naval base of Singapore into our flying orbit.

Singapore commands the Straits of Malacca, connecting the China sea and the Indian Ocean, and dominates an area of six million square miles of sea and land where are produced 54 per cent of the world's rubber, 15 per cent of its tin, the greater part of the Far East's petroleum production and such indispensable commodities as rice, copra, various fibres and hard woods.

The Philippines, in the northern part of the area, maintains a near monopoly in hemp. In the Dutch island of Java most of the world's cinchona, or quinine, is grown. Other essential raw materials from the area include bauxite, tungsten and manganese.

STRATEGIC PIVOT

Singapore is the natural strategic pivot for the defence of this area with its enormous wealth of materials. The Netherlands' islands could be counted upon to furnish advance bases for defending these possessions against aggression.

Our objective in penetrating this region by air is primarily commercial.

We covet no territory and therefore have an advantage over Japan, which is backing its expansion in this part of the world with demonstrations of force.

Japanese commercial planes are not permitted in the Dutch East Indies, British Malaya or the Philippines, but do fly from Japan to Canton, China, thence to Hanoi, Saigon and Bangkok. The Japanese also have a potential air base on the Spratly Islands in the China sea midway between French Indo-China and British North Borneo, which could be used for air routes to extend Japanese influence southward.

MIGHT BE PREVENTIVE

Strategic and diplomatic values of our air operations in this part of the world are obvious. The United States fleet, if forced to enter this vast territory to halt Japanese naval aggression, could profit by our air experience and be confident of the advantage of using established routes to fly its warplanes in support of its warships. The very fact we had made a measure of air preparation might cause Japan to stop, look and listen, before launching a hostile naval campaign into this rich area.

Great Britain soon may be able to spare some of her new battleships of the King George V class to base at Singapore. This naval reinforcement, taken in connexion with a changed strategic situation consequent upon United States air possibilities in that area, might have beneficial effect in bringing greater stabilization to the Far East.

In event of war with Japan, Guam would be dropped as a stop for our airplanes to the Far East, for it is surrounded by Japan's mandated islands, probably many of them fortified and having bases

CONSIDER NEW OBSTACLES

Japan, before extending its operations southward, must face both Hongkong and Manila as bases for enemy warships. Japan has taken Hainan Island and made it a naval base. Haiphong, Camranh bay and Saigon would not be difficult to seize. This would bring Japanese naval forces within striking distance of this rich area.

The American fleet of 12 battleships, added to four British vessels of the King George V class, would compose a fleet of 16 ships—more than a match for Japan's 12. Lesser units of a U.S.-British defence fleet could count upon a reinforcement from the Netherlands' islands of three cruisers, six destroyers and 20 submarines operating from bases in Java, together with about 350 Dutch planes from air bases in Sumatra, Java and Borneo, also, a number of motor torpedo boats.

OBSTACLES TO JAPAN

The Australian navy could be counted upon to add two cruisers, five destroyers and a number of motor torpedo boats to this force. In these island-filled seas, motor boats carrying torpedoes and depth charges would be effective against Japanese naval invasion.

It is certain that the Japanese general staff is considering seriously these new obstacles to a Japanese naval advance, and may decide the time is not propitious, at least not as long as the Royal Navy holds its own in Europe and the U. S. fleet remains in the Pacific.

WONG WEN-HAO ADDRESSES ENGINEERS

"Productive Reconstruction" was the subject of an address delivered by Dr. Wong Wen-hao, Minister of Economic Affairs, at the session of the ninth annual meeting of the Chinese Engineers' Society, Mr. Chen Fan-ahan, Commissioner of Reconstruction for Szechwan, spoke on the "Economic Reconstruction of Szechwan."

At its session presided over by Mr. Ku Yu-chuan, Secretary-General of the Society, the meeting decided to dispatch a message of tribute to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and Dr. H. H. Kung, Vice-President of the Executive Yuan, and a message of comfort to the fighting forces at the front. Another decision reached was to encourage Chinese scientists to engage in industrial research and invention and to safeguard the monopoly of their inventions. (Central News).

Finance and Commerce

HOW FISH CAN BE PRESERVED WITHOUT ICE

A liquid medium, whose main ingredient is salt and which can preserve fish for a period of over a week in good condition, has, I understand, been discovered by the Department, writes a Ceylon Observer reporter.

The discovery eliminates the use of ice.

Ice, it is said, can preserve fish in good condition for a duration of only two or three days while in the case of little fish this period is reduced to 12 to 15 hours.

This new medium is composed of a solution of salt and a chemical (which the Department is not prepared to divulge at the moment). The chemical has at present to be imported but every effort is being made to find a local substitute.

SOME EXPERIMENTS

The following are some of the experiments which were carried out to test the properties of the medium.

A Kalanda (Whiting) 6½ inches in length, which was caught at 5-30 a.m. was kept in this medium for 2 minutes at 7.05 a.m. and taken out. The fish was found to be still good, at 11 a.m. while an untreated specimen of the same species had started swelling.

A Koi, seven inches in length, which was caught at 5 a.m. was immersed in the liquid at 7 a.m. for 5 minutes. And at 9 p.m. the fish was found to be still good.

A seven-inch Parawa caught at 11 a.m. was immersed for 5 minutes at 12 noon. It was good

"MONUMENTS" OF SINHALESE IRRIGATION

"The remains of ancient monuments, palaces and temples in the now deserted provinces of Ceylon are indeed wonderful. However, it is doubtful if anything is more impressive or more likely to attract one to the study and consideration of early Sinhalese history than their works of irrigation," said Mr. R. L. Brohier in the course of a paper on "Irrigation under Sinhalese Kings" read at the Y.M.B.A. recently.

Mr. Brohier described how under the Sinhalese Kings the cultivation of rice, the staple food of the people, was the chief care and principal concern of King and alike and then went on to detail the various irrigation works that were carried out.

Sir Baron Jayatilaka, commenting on the lecture, complimented Mr. Brohier on the great knowledge in his subject he had brought to bear on his paper.

EYE OF SCIENCE

Mr. Brohier had, added Sir Baron, applied the eye of science to the subject of irrigation in ancient times.

Commenting on the paper itself, Sir Baron said that it was unthinkable that the ancient Sinhalese could have accomplished such vast projects, as the building of the "Yoda Ela" (Giant's Tank), without very efficient and scientific instruments.

The instruments used could not have been crude.

"I think," Sir Baron went on, "that in earlier days irrigation was a real science. At that time the Sinhalese must have used most efficient tools. But these tools and instruments may have been lost in subsequent times."

Continuing, Sir Baron said that as he listened to Mr. Brohier describing the grandeur that was ancient Ceylon there were moments when he was elated and also moments when he was sad.

That feeling, he said, was due to the glory which Ceylon had its tragedies in ancient Ceylon.

H.K. STOCK EXCHANGE

The undertone continues firm.

BUYERS

H.K. Banks, \$135.
Bank of East Asia, \$74.
Canton Ind., \$187.50.
Wharves, \$92.
Docks (O), \$12.
Providents, \$5.55.
Hotels, \$3.45.
Lands, \$33.50.
Humphreys, \$7.75.
Trams, \$17.60.
Star Ferries, \$60.
Lights (O), C.D. \$7.30.
Electric (N), C.D. \$7.05.
Electric (N), \$39.50.
Sandakan Lights, \$11.20.
Telephones (N), \$25.50.
Telephones (N), \$10.20.
Dairy Farms, \$18.90.
Watsons, \$10.50.
Entertainments, \$7.
Constructions (O), \$1.60.

SELLERS

Hotels, \$3.65.
Electric (O), \$40.50.
Vibro Piling, \$7.79.

SALES

Docks (O), \$18.10.
Providents, \$5.55/60.
Telephones (O), \$25.70.
Cements, \$18.20.
Watsons, \$10.50.

HONGKONG SHAREBROKERS ASSOCIATION

Volume of Business Transacted on Monday, Dec. 16, 1940.

SALES

China Lights (O) 350 \$7.55
Cements 1,200 18.20
China Providents 500 5.60
H.K. Docks (N) 100 17.50
Dairy Farms 100 19.15
H.K. Telephones (O) 200 25.70
A.S. Watsons 1,000 10.50

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Selangor Most Backward In Rice Cultivation

The State of Selangor has been the most backward in the matter of rice cultivation and, although large tracts of land suitable for the purpose existed in the coastal areas, no development took place in the early days and much of the very fertile belt is now under other forms of cultivation.

So says Mr. A. G. Robinson, Director of Drainage and Irrigation, Malay States, in his annual report for 1939.

Making a general survey of the work of the Department for last year, Mr. Robinson states:—

The department has been in existence eight years and as Irrigation Engineers we are thankful to have had these years to improve our experience and technique to promote new irrigation schemes on an ever widening scale so as to make this country more and more secure in its food production in the difficult and portentous years that are ahead. It is encouraging to the department to have earned the good report of Sir Frank Stockdale, the Adviser on Agriculture to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in his report on his visit to Malaya in 1938.

There are approximately 250,000 acres under padi cultivation in the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements, and of this area 170,000 acres have now been given irrigation or controlled drainage.

It was fortunate that when war broke out the department had completed the surveys and investigations and most of the planning for its two major schemes in Lower Perak and Kuala Selangor districts, so that it was able to set about the expansion of construction work immediately funds were made available.

In the Lower Perak area at Sungai Manik, construction is going ahead at four times the peace time tempo and it is expected that the whole scheme estimated to cost \$1,200,000 will be completed in 1942. It was fortunate that the contract amounting to \$142,000 for the permanent headworks to supply irrigation to the whole area of 24,000 acres had been let at the end of 1938 as it is now nearly completed and is expected to be in operation for the coming season for the irrigation of 10,000 acres.

The opening up of the next stage of 9,000 acres is progressing satisfactorily, there being some 2,500 new settlers in the area. To encourage quick settlement Government is paying for the felling and clearing of the jungle and it is expected a crop of dry padi will be grown in the coming season in the newly felled area.

An irrigation scheme has been commenced near Changkat Joun in Lower Perak for an area of 6,000 acres to be cultivated by Chinese padi planters.

SELANGOR AREAS

The State of Selangor was fortunate in having a large area of undeveloped land along the Selangor coast known as Tanjong Karang, which had been the subject of investigations for some years and for which schemes for irrigation and controlled drainage had already been studied. Immediately on the outbreak of war the energies of the department were directed to the development of this area on a large scale and it is satisfactory to record that by the end of the year, a considerable amount of construction work was already in hand.

The year 1939 will therefore be notable in the annals of the State as marking the commencement of the Tanjong Karang Scheme. The area to be developed under the present scheme amounts to 33,000 acres and with the Panchang Bedena area of 15,000 acres, which will also be irrigated by this scheme, the padi area in the State will be quadrupled since the Department of Drainage and Irrigation was formed.

The total cost of the scheme, inclusive of the controlled drainage scheme at Panchang Bedena and the construction of the coast bund, which is nearing completion, is \$2,000,000.

Settlement in the new area is going well ahead, some 6,000 acres being felled and cleared for the coming season. Here again Government is paying for the felling and clearing of the land.

NEGRI SEMBILAN

Provision of irrigation to the numerous small areas which make up the total of 35,000 acres of padi in cultivation in Negri Sembilan continues to make satisfactory progress and a further 800 acres were given irrigation works during the year, making 7,500 acres in all, of which 6,000 acres have been dealt with since the formation of the department.

As pointed out in previous reports, irrigation in the riverine areas of Negri Sembilan is difficult

CHRISTMAS

AND

NEW YEAR HAMPERS

NO. 1 HAMPER

1 quart Lanson Dry Champagne }
1 " Gordon's Dry Gin } \$20.00
1 " Black & White Whisky }

NO. 2 HAMPER

1 quart Lanson Dry Champagne }
1 " Black & White Whisky } \$25.00
1 " Gordon's Dry Gin }
1 " Hunt's Manzanilla Sherry }

NO. 3 HAMPER

1 quart Lanson Dry Champagne }
1 " Black & White Whisky } \$35.00
1 " Gordon's Dry Gin }
1 " Hunt's Vin de Paste Sherry }
1 " Sandeman's One Star Port }
1 pint Gordon's Creme de Menthe }

Special Hamers made to suit Customers requirements.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.

WINE DEPARTMENT

Queen's Building.

Telephone 20638.

RE-SURFACING OF BURMA ROAD

KUNMING, Dec. 16 (Central).—

In view of the congestion of traffic the highway authorities are planning to re-surface the Kunming-Pichikwan and Lungling-Wanting sections of the Burma Road with asphalt.

The Central Motion Picture Studio is sending cameramen to film the energetic efforts exerted by the Chinese to keep traffic going on the Burma Road in the face of Japanese aerial bombings.

HUNAN HAS LARGE TEA PRODUCTION

The tea industry in Hunan is making big strides. During the current year, 80,000 cases of red tea have been produced and a brick tea plant to manufacture black tea for export has been established, according to information from the Provincial Department of Reconstruction. (Central News).

PRE-PAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

The following classes of advertisements are charged at the price given below:—

SITUATIONS VACANT. HOUSES AND APARTMENTS WANTED. HOUSES AND APARTMENTS TO BE LET. MISCELLANEOUS WANTS.

Announcements not exceeding 25 Words are inserted under this heading at a Pre-paid Rate of \$1.50 for THREE INSERTIONS. If Charges collected, \$2.00.

WANTED TO BUY

WE PAY HIGH PRICES for all gold and silver articles. Jade, diamonds, jewels, watches, fountain pens. Apply Far East Diamond and Gold Refining Co. Room 621, China Building, 6th floor.

WE PAY HIGH PRICES for all gold and silver articles, gold bars, diamonds and jewels. Apply China Gold Refining Co. Pedder Building, 2nd floor, Room 8.

WE OFFER HIGH PRICES for any amount of gold articles, diamonds, silver, etc. No holidays. Apply China Building, 7th floor. Tel. 30727. Eurasia Gold Refining Co.

WANTED KNOWN

Why not learn all the Fancy latest Stitches for your dresses and Sweaters.

JOIN THE KNITTING CLASS AT \$3.00 per month (Twice a week lesson). Please apply to Box No. 654 c/o H.K.D.P.

ORDERS TAKEN for hand-made sweaters, Ladies' jumpers, Babies' outfits, etc., at \$5.00 each for workmanship.

Wool and model desired, to be supplied by customer.

Send particulars of address, etc., to Box 502, H.K.D.P.

These "WE" have an outstanding assortment of latest American dresses for all occasions and price to suit all purses. Call at "Vanly Shop" (Lazarus) Pedder Street.

Experienced Book-keeper. Wants Students to form a class. Guarantee students to keep a whole set of books after completion of a course of 6 months. For Term and Particulars. Please Apply to—Box No. 482 c/o H.K.D.P.

HOTELS

FOR JADED APPETITES!

REAL RUSSIAN FOOD

Thin \$1.00 • Dinner \$1.25

METROPOLE HOTEL

TEA DANCE

DAILY

EXCEPT MONDAYS

5 to 7.30 P.M.

ENGRAVERS

FEI FEI & CO.

Photo Engravers

18, Cochrane Street

Telephone No. 22224

AUCTIONEERS

GREATEST COLLECTION OF BARGAINS IN TOWN!

LAMBERT'S AUCTION ROOM

10, Wyndham Street

Telephone No. 22224

EAT AT Jimmy's

BUTTERICK

Expert Ladies Tailor

New Style Ready Made Dresses, Overcoats and Costumes.

FOR SALE.

18, Wyndham Street. Tel. 23615

TAILOR

LAM SHU SHEK

334, Nathan Road, Kowloon, Tel. 57712

Guaranteed delivery 1 suit in 24 hours notice and 3 hours for a pair of trousers.

Help your Friend and his Hobby by giving POSTAGE STAMPS for his collection and SEEDS FOR HIS GARDEN

We can supply the goods of his and your want

GRACA & CO.

Dealers in Postage Stamps, Garden Seeds, etc., etc.

10, Wyndham Street

Established 1896 Hongkong

DONT FORGET

THAT WHEN

You are at Home

you can get the

HONG KONG

DAILY PRESS

at SELFRIDGES.

FOREIGN MARKETS & QUOTATIONS

MONEY AND EXCHANGE

CLOSING QUOTATIONS

DECEMBER 16, 1940

On London:—	
Telegraphic Transfer, 1/2 7/8	
Bank Bills, on demand 1/3 7/8	
Credit 4 months sight	
On Shanghai:—	
On demand 390	
On Singapore:—	
On demand 63 3/4	
On Japan:—	
On demand 102 1/2	
On India:—	
Telegraphic Transfer, 1/2 1/8	
On demand 1/2 1/8	
On New York:—	
Bank Bills, on demand 2 3/8	
Credit, 60 days sight 24 1/8	
On Batavia:—	
On demand 43 3/4	
On Paris:—	
Bank Bills, on demand Nom.	
Credit 4 months sight Nom.	
On Saigon:—	
On demand 101 1/2	
On Manila:—	
On demand 46 3/4	
On Bangkok:—	
On demand 149	
On Sterling Notes:—	
Bank Buying Rate ... Nom.	
Bar Silver per oz. 22 7/8	

Market Report

FROM ROZA BROS.

Monday, Dec. 16.
Silver prices were unchanged over the week-end, the quotations remaining at 22 7/8 for Ready and 22 3/4 for Forward American Silver was quoted.
The London/New York cross-rate was quoted at 402 1/2. New York/London was quoted at 403 1/2.

MARKET

Quiet.

STERLING

There were sellers at 1/3 December/January, buyers at 1/3-1/32 for Cash.

U. S. DOLLARS

Some business was arranged at 23 3/4 for Cash. The market closed at 1 p.m. with sellers at 23 1/8 for Cash, buyers at 23 3/4 for Cash.

SHANGHAI DOLLARS

Opened with sellers at 402 leading to business at various rates. At the close sellers for Spot were quoted at 404, buyers at 404 1/2.

SHANGHAI MARKET

Opened with sellers of Sterling at 3 3/32 for Spot and at the close at noon sellers for Spot were quoted at 3 1/16, U. S. Dollars sellers for Spot were quoted at 5 7/8 at the opening, and at the close at noon sellers for Spot were quoted at 5 7/32.

AFTERNOON MARKET

The market was quiet in the afternoon.

STERLING

The market closed with sellers at 1/3 December/January, buyers at 1/3-1/32 for Cash.

U. S. DOLLARS

The market closed with sellers at 23 1/8 for Cash, buyers at 23 3/4 for Cash.

SHANGHAI DOLLARS

Some business was done at 405-1/2 and 405 3/4, closing with sellers at 405 3/4, buyers bidding 406.

SHANGHAI MARKET

Sterling at 3 1/16 and U. S. Dollars at 5 7/32, both sellers for Spot.

Shanghai Exchange

Shanghai, Dec. 16 (Reuters).

Official T.T. Rates	Opening	Closing
London	0/3-11/16	0/3-11/16
New York	5-3/4	5-3/4
Japan	24-3/8	24-3/8
India	20-3/8 N	20-3/8 N
Hongkong	24-1/2	24-1/2
Sellers	Opening	Closing
Spot	0/3-45/64	0/3-43/64
Dec.	0/3-45/64	0/3-43/64
Jan.	0/3-11/16	0/3-43/64
U.S. Dollars	Opening	Closing
Spot	5-7/8	5-13/16
Dec.	5-27/32	5-13/16
Jan.	5-27/32	5-13/16
Market	Inclined to be easy.	

Silver Duty Rate

The Central Bank of China's rate on London at 10 a.m. today was 1/2-1/2d.
The Equalisation rate was 2 1/2 per cent.

COMMODITY MARKET REVIEW

(FROM PAYNE & CO.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 14, 1940.

SINGAPORE RUBBER	Previous Close	Dec. 14	Change
S P O T	12-1/16	12-1/16	unch.
JAN-MARCH	12-1/8	12-1/8	up 1/8
APRIL-JUNE	12-1/4	12-1/4	up 1/4

The market was quiet.

LONDON RUBBER	Previous Close	Dec. 14	Change
S P O T	12-1/16	12-1/16	unch.
JAN-MARCH	12-1/8	12-1/8	up 1/8
APRIL-JUNE	12-1/4	12-1/4	up 1/4

NEW YORK COTTON: Lack of immediate incentive, the market likely moves with moderate limits for the time being but with upward tendency as January contracts approach maturity.

NEW YORK RUBBER: Consumption of Rubber in the United States in November totalled 54,652 tons, stocks 275,343 tons and supplies about 158,095 tons.

CHICAGO WHEAT: Lack of buying incentive, the market looks lower.

NEW YORK STOCKS: Previous close, 132.35; Today's close, 132.31; Change, 0.04.

NEW YORK COMMODITY MARKET

(REUTERS SERVICE)

	High	Low	Close	Change
New York Cotton, March	10.22	10.17	10.17	.02 off
New York Rubber, March	20.00	20.45	20.51b	.06 off
Chicago Wheat, May	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	.01 off
Chicago Corn, May	59 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2	.01 off
New York Hides, March	12.70	12.65	12.71	.01 off
NEW YORK COTTON	Close	Opening	Closing	Change
Dec. (New contract)	10.18/13			
January	10.03 N	10.09b/11a	10.06a	.02 off
March	10.19/20	10.22/23	10.17/17	.03 off
May	10.12/12	10.14/15	10.11/11	.01 off
July	9.93/93	9.95/94	9.91/91	.02 off
October	9.38/38	9.38/38	9.38a	.01 off
Spot	10.20 N		10.17	.03 off

Total sales Friday—57,700 bales.

NEW YORK RUBBER	Close	Opening	Closing	Change
January	20.70b	unquoted	20.68b	.02 off
March	20.51b	20.55a	20.45b	.06 off
May	20.30b	20.25b/31a	20.25b	.05 off
July (New contract)	20.15b	20.15a	20.10	.05 off

Total sales—80 tons.

CHICAGO WHEAT	Close	Opening	Closing	Change
May	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	.01 off
July	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	.01 off

Friday's sales—Unreceived.

CHICAGO CORN	Close	Opening	Closing	Change
May	59 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2	.01 off
July	59 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2	.01 off

NEW YORK HIDES	Close	Opening	Closing	Change
March	12.71/71	12.68b/75a	12.70b	.01 off
June	12.49/49	12.40b/51a	12.44/44	.05 off

Total sales for the day—17 contracts.

N.Y. Official Silver 34-3/4 unquoted

N.Y.-London Cross Rate 4.03-1/2 4.03-1/2

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

(REUTERS SERVICE)

London, Dec. 16.
The following quotations are the middle prices at the close of the market in London. All quotations are subject to confirmation and no responsibility is assumed for errors in transmission.

War Loan, 3 1/2% (Red. after 1952)	102-5/8
Defence Loan, 3%	101
Sancti-Klon Rly. 5%	13
Chinese 4 1/2% Gold Loan 1898 (Brit. Issue)	44
Chinese 5% Gold Bonds, 1925/47	42-47
Chin. 4 1/2% Anglo-French Loan, 1908	45
Chinese 5% Crisp Loan, 1912	26 1/2
Chinese 5% Revere Loan, 1913 (Ldn. Is.)	34
Chinese 8% Ster. Notes, 1925 (Vickers)	19
Chin. Imperial Rly. 5% Loan	47
Honan Rly. 5%	10 1/2
Hukuang Rly. 5%, 1911 (L.P. N.Y. Issue)	15
Hukuang Rly. 5%, 1911 (German Issue)	13
Lung Tsing & U. Hai Rly. 5% 1913	14
Shai-N'King Rly. 5%	16
Tientsin-Pukow Rly. 5% (Brit. Stpd.)	15
Tientsin-Pukow Rly. 5% (German Stpd.)	15
Tientsin-Pukow Rly. 5% (Brit. Stpd. Supl. Loan)	15
Tientsin-Pukow Rly. 5% (Ger. Stpd. Supl. Loan)	15
ap. 5% Ster. Loan, 1924	30
Ger. 7% Int'l. Loan, 1924	8
Chartered Bank	81
H.K. & Shai Bank (Ldn. Reg.)	78
H.K. & Shai Bank (Col. Reg.)	81
Chinese Eng. & Mining (bearer)	16/3
Mercantile Bank of Ind.	4/-

RICE IN LIEU OF CASH

FUKIEN FIRST TO ADOPT MEASURE

YUNGAN, Dec. 16 (Central).—Fukien is the first province to collect land tax in rice, according to Mr. Yen Chia-kun, Fukien Commissioner of Finance.

Mr. Yen said that the collection has been smoothly carried out in the current year. Many provinces have now written to the Fukien Provincial Government seeking information regarding the detailed measures of collection.

With the collection of land tax in rice all sur-taxes on land, Mr. Yen revealed, have been abolished in Fukien. In case the farmers can not pay in rice, they may yet pay in cash.

Mr. Yen lauded the new system as an important wartime economic measure which lightens the burden of the farmers and at the same time adjusts the government's revenue and expenditure to meet its wartime needs.

dia. 2 1/2 "G"	10 1/2
Pekin Syndicate	2/-
Shai Elec. Contr. Co.	15/-
Shai Waterworks "A"	13 1/2
Union Insurance	20
Gula Kalumpung Rubber	14/44
Lon. Mid. & Scot. Rly.	13 1/2
Great Western Rly.	31
National Bank of India	31 1/2
S. A. Tob (bearer)	83/0
Dunlop Rubber	31 1/2
Bristol Aeroplane	10
Imperial Chemical Ind.	28/44
United Steel	21/3
Woolworths	52/44
Marmat. Investments	7/8
Western Holdings	9/9
Sub-Nigel	160
Shell Trans. & Trad.	37/6
(bearer)	37/6
—bid.	—ex div.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

QUOTATION

(REUTERS SERVICE)

DECEMBER 15, 1940

STOCKS	Last Sale	Dec. 14	STOCKS	Last Sale	Dec. 14
Adams Express	5 1/2		Loew's Inc.	33 1/2	
Allegheny Steel Co.	23 1/2		Loft Incorporated	19 1/2	
Alcoa	37		Mack Truck Inc.	28 1/2	
Aluminum Ltd.	75 1/2		Martin, Glen L.	32 1/2	
Amer. Can.	87 1/2		McKesson & Robbins, pfd.	24 1/2	
American Cyanamid B.	35 1/2		Montgomery Ward	37 1/2	
Amer. & Foreign Power	1		Mt. City Copper Co.	3 1/2	
Amer. & Foreign Pwr.	15 1/2		National Aviation	10 1/2	
Amer. Locomotive	18 1/2		Nat. Dairy Products	13 1/2	
Amer. Metals Co.	18 1/2		National Distillers	24	
Amer. Radiator	6 1/2		National Lead	17 1/2	
Amer. Rolling Mill	13 1/2		Nat. Power & Light	7 1/2	
Amer. Sling and Ring Co.	45 1/2		National Supply Corp.	6 1/2	
Amer. Sugar Refining	14 1/2		New York Consul	13 1/2	
Amer. Tel. & Tel.	183		Niagara Hudson Power	3	
Amer. Tobacco "B"	60 1/2		N. American Aviation	17	
Amer. Waterworks	7 1/2		North American Co.	16 1/2	
Anascondia Copper	27 1/2		Northern Pacific	6 1/2	
Atchafalpa T. & S. Fe.	17 1/2		Owens-Illinois Glass Co.	44	
Aviation Corp.	4 1/2		Pacific Gas & Elec.	28 1/2	
Baldwin Locomotive	17 1/2		Packard Motors	5 1/2	
Baltimore & Ohio	3 1/2		Pan-American Airways	15 1/2	
Barber Asphalt Co.	10 1/2		Paramount Pictures	10 1/2	
Barnhart Oil	3 1/2		Pennsylvania R.R.	22 1/2	
Bendix Aviation	33 1/2		Philadelphia Read. Coal	1	
Bethlehem Steel	88 1/2		Phillips Petroleum	41 1/2	
Bills & Co.	17 1/2		Public Service of N.J.	29	
Boeing Airplane Co.	17 1/2		Pullman Inc.	26 1/2	
Borg-Warner	20 1/2		Pure Oil	8 1/2	
Briggs Mfg.	25		Radio Corp. of Am.	43 1/2	
Budd Mfg. Corp.	5 1/2		Reading Company, Com.	13 1/2	
Canadian Pacific Rwy.	31		Remington Arms Co., Inc.	5 1/2	
Celanese	27 1/2		Republic Aviation Corp.	41 1/2	
Cheapeake & Ohio	42 1/2		Republic Steel	22 1/2	
Chrysler Corp.	70 1/2		Revere Corp.	11 1/2	
Columbia Gas & Elec.	4 1/2		Raymond Tobac.	32	
Commercial Credit Co.	29 1/2		Safeway Stores	42	
Com. & Southern (Ord.)	13 1/2		Schenley Distillers	11 1/2	
Consolidated Edison	22 1/2		Sears Roebuck	77 1/2	
Consolidated Oil	5 1/2		Shell Union Oil	11 1/2	
Continental Can	37		Socomey-Vacuum Oil	8 1/2	
Continental Oil	19 1/2		Southern Pacific	8	
Copperweld Steel	18 1/2		Southern Ry. 5 1/2 pfd.	22 1/2	
Curtis Wright (C.)	9		Spicer Manufacturing Co.	36	
Curtis Wright "A"	28 1/2		Standard Brands	6 1/2	
Deere & Co.	21 1/2		Stand. Gas & Elec.	1	
Distillers Corp. Seagrams	19		Standard Oil of California	18 1/2	
Douglas Aircraft	78 1/2		Standard Oil of N.J.	33 1/2	
Du Pont de Nemours	144 1/2		Stone & Webster	7 1/2	
Eagle Picher Lead	10 1/2		Studebaker Corp.	18 1/2	
Eaton Mfg. Co.	35		Swift International	9 1/2	
Elec. Antenna	35 1/2		Technicolor	40	
Elec. Bond & Share	44		Texas Corp.	36 1/2	
Elec. Bond & Share 3 1/2 pfd.	58 1/2		Texas Gulf Sulphur	29 1/2	
Elec. Bond & Share 3 1/2 pfd.	58 1/2		Timken-Axle	42 1/2	
Elec. Power & Light 7 1/2 pfd.	33 1/2		Trans-America Co.	64	
Flintkote	15 1/2		20th Cent. Fox	12 1/2	
Gen. American Trans.	54 1/2		Union Bag & Paper Corp.	12 1/2	
Gen. Electric	33 1/2		Union Carbide & Carbon	78	
Gen. Motors	50 1/2		Union Pacific	43 1/2	
Gen. Railway Signal	12 1/2		United Aircraft	15 1/2	
Gen. Tire & Rubber	13 1/2		United Airlines Trans.	13	
Glidden Co.	13 1/2		United Corp.	27 1/2	
Goodrich (B.R.)	61 1/2		United Corp. 3 1/2 cum pfd.	27 1/2	
Goodrich 3 1/2 pfd.	61 1/2		United Gas Corp.	4 1/2	
Goodyear Tire & Co.	18 1/2		United Gas Improvement	4 1/2	
Great Northern Iron Ore	18 1/2		U.S. Industrial Alcohol	23	
Great Northern Rly. pfd.	27 1/2		U.S. Rubber	23 1/2	
Great Western Sugar	20 1/2		U.S. Rubber 3 1/2 pfd.	87 1/2	
Greyhound Corp.	21		U.S. Smelting	64	
Hercules Powder Co.	70 1/2		U.S. Steel	69 1/2	
Homestake Mining	53 1/2		Vanadium	34	
Int. Nickel	24 1/2		Valtec Aircraft	3 1/2	
Inter. Paper & Power	16		Walworth Co.	5 1/2	
Int. Tel. & Tel.	2 1/2		Warner Bros. Pict.	3 1/2	
Kennecott, Copper	35 1/2		Westinghouse Elec.	103 1/2	
Lake Foundry & Mac.	31 1/2		Woodward Iron Cor.	32 1/2	
Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass	43		Chase National Bank	—	
Lockheed Aircraft	28 1/2		National City Bank	—	

DOW JONES AVERAGE

1940			Dec. 15, 1940			
High	Low	Jones Averages	Dec. 13	High	Low	Change
102.90	111.24	Industrials	133.35	132.74	131.91	.04 off
32.87	22.75	Reals	37.85	37.96	37.90	.07 up
25.45	10.23	Utilities	30.19	20.25	20.95	.05 off
32.92	33.09	Bonds	30.84		30.84	.11 up
54.07	43.67	Commodity Index	58.49		56.35	.14 off
			Business Done—390,000 shares			

PRESIDENT LINER

To SAN FRANCISCO and LOS ANGELES
via SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA & HONOLULU
S.S. "PRESIDENT COOLIDGE" Dec. 28
S.S. "PRESIDENT PIERCE" Jan. 3
S.S. "PRESIDENT TAFT" Jan. 17

To NEW YORK and BOSTON
via MANILA, SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO,
BOMBAY and CAPE TOWN
S.S. "PRESIDENT VAN BUREN" Dec. 17
S.S. "PRESIDENT GARFIELD" Feb. 8
* Manila, Singapore & Penang.

To MANILA
S.S. "PRESIDENT PIERCE" Dec. 27
S.S. "PRESIDENT TAFT" Jan. 10
S.S. "PRESIDENT CLEVELAND" Jan. 24

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AGENTS FOR TRANSCONTINENTAL & WESTERN AIR
AND UNITED AIR LINES
12, PRADDER ST. TEL. 28171



SAN FRANCISCO & LOS ANGELES via Honolulu.
NITTA MARU Thursday, 19th Dec.
KAMAKURA MARU Tuesday, 4th Jan.
SEATTLE & VANCOUVER (Starts from Kobe)
HIKAWA MARU Saturday, 21st Dec.
SOUTH AMERICA (WEST COAST) via Hilo & San Francisco.
RAKUYO MARU (starts from Kobe) Tuesday, 24th Dec.
NEW YORK via Panama
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila.
ATUTA MARU Monday, 30th Dec.
HAIPHONG, SAIGON & MADRAS
* HAKODATE MARU Friday, 10th Jan.
(Cargo accepted for Haiphong & Saigon)
BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo.
KASIMA MARU Saturday, 28th Dec.
RANGOON & CALUTTA via Singapore
* LIMA MARU Friday, 13th Dec.
* MATUMOTO MARU Saturday, 28th Dec.
KOBE & YOKOHAMA
NITTA MARU Thursday, 19th Dec.
KITANO MARU Tuesday, 24th Dec.
KAMAKURA MARU Tuesday, 14th Jan.
* Cargo only.

Complete Information From Your Agent or:

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CUNARD WHITE STAR LINE

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VIGOROUS PROSECUTION OF WAR AGAINST ITALY URGED AS BEST STRATEGY

LONDON, DEC. 5.—THE CREEK CAMPAIGN HAS ALREADY DEALT A VERY HARD BLOW TO THE AXIS, AND TO MUSSOLINI IN PARTICULAR, WRITES GENERAL SIR HUBERT GOUGH, READER'S military commentator, today.

The results, however, are not yet decided; these results may be infinitely far-reaching, and decisive results can only be attained if the campaign is carried on with the utmost vigor.

Everything depends on that word, vigor—that is to say, the strategy of the campaign must largely be decided by the character of the commander in chief. The main decision before him seems to be whether or not to pursue the cautious policy of not pressing forward to the sea, and of giving up the idea of destroying the Italian army in Albania.

SAFER POLICY

The object of such a policy would be to establish a good line of communication behind him, and to avoid a counterattack from the Italians. Such a policy may be safer theoretically than a dash advance, but is it in practice?

The Italians would be given time to recover, and they would have time to bring fresh reinforcements from Italy. Would the

position of the Greek army then be so safe?

In addition to recovered morale on the part of the Italians, time would have been given to Hitler to act and bring overwhelming numbers against the Greeks.

A WARNING

There are many instances of armies which have rushed forward, outmarched their supplies, and then encountered fresh forces of the enemy which defeated them. In 1920, the Turks inflicted just such a defeat on the Greeks.

But a successful war is not to be made by blindly following rules and copying previous campaigns without regard to divergent circumstances. There are, if one seeks them, many examples of immediate gains which have been obtained from a pursuit pushed forward relentlessly and with the utmost vigor—decisive points seized and hostile armies scattered and destroyed; and there are also examples of crushing victories, the full fruits of which are lost because the victor did not push the pursuit with relentless energy.

In the first category, Napoleon's pursuit of the Prussians after the battle of Jena is a classic example. In a few weeks after the battle, the French were in Berlin, and Prussia had fallen. In the present war, we have seen the tremendous consequences of relentless pursuit giving the enemy no time to recover or use fresh bases. In the German pursuit of the French even as far as Bordeaux.

In the second category, Wellington lost many of the fruits of his two greatest victories, Salamanca and Vittoria, by failing to pursue

FRENCH SHIPPING LINE TAKEN OVER BY VICHY GOVT.

LONDON, DEC. 16 (Reuter).—The Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, the great French shipping line, has now been taken over by the Vichy Government as a result of the Vichy Cabinet meeting under Marshal Petain yesterday morning.

In future the Company's chairman will be nominated by State and of the 10 directors eight will be nominated by Government and two by shareholders.

with sufficient energy. In both cases, the French recovered, and resumed the offensive.

MANY FACTORS

Many factors in the present situation in Albania would urge vigorous pursuit. Though, lines of communications are difficult, and railways conspicuous only by their absence, a rush of forces to decisive points should not put an undue strain on transport.

The ships of the Greek and British navies should be able to give most effective assistance to the attack on Valona and Durazzo as soon as the Greek land forces are within striking distance. If the Greek command can capture these ports, the results will be almost decisive—as far as the war in Albania is concerned. The great portion of the Italian army would be forced to surrender or die. Few could escape to the north.

Despite Mussolini's boasts, it should be practically impossible for him to send into Albania fresh forces to redress the balance in his favor, for his only port would be Santa Giovanni de Medici in the northern corner of Albania. Then, with a fairly short front, resting on Lake Ochrida in the east, and on the sea in the west, the Greeks would be in a much better position to meet any eventualities which might arise.

WEATHER REPORT

Hongkong Royal Observatory

10 a.m., Dec. 16.

Barometer (at sea level), 30.09 ins.

Temperature, 72 F.

Humidity, 60 per cent.

Wind Direction, N.

Wind Force (Beaufort), 2.

Temperature: maximum yesterday, 76 F.

Temperature: Minimum last night, 64 F.

Rainfall for 24 hrs. ending 10 a.m. today, nil.

Total rainfall since January 1st, 117.59 ins.

Against an average of, 64.61 ins.

Sunset tonight, 5.42 p.m.

Sunrise tomorrow, 6.56 a.m.

4 p.m., Dec. 16.

Barometer (at sea level), 30.01 ins.

Temperature, 77 F.

Humidity, 39 per cent.

Wind Direction, NNE.

Wind Force (Beaufort), 3.

Maximum temperature, 78 F.

Minimum temperature, 64 F.

Rainfall, nil.

HONG KONG TIDE TABLE

From 17 to 23 Dec. 1940.

Days of Week	Date of Month	HIGH WATER		LOW WATER	
		Hong Kong Standard Time	Height	Hong Kong Standard Time	Height
Tues.	17	h.m.	ft.	h.m.	ft.
		11 48	4.7	05 15	0.7
		23 20	8.2	18 55	3.6
Wed.	18	13 33	4.8	08 58	0.7
		23 06	7.9	16 34	3.6
Thur.	19	15 0	4.9	06 40	1.0
		23 50	7.5	17 16	3.8
Fri.	20	16 10	5.0	18 15	4.0
		00 46	8.1	06 16	1.6
Sat.	21	18 06	6.2	19 30	1.2
		01 55	8.2	09 05	2.2
Sun.	22	19 00	6.6	21 28	4.0
		03 24	8.6	10 03	2.6
Mon.	23	19 53	8.3	22 29	3.6

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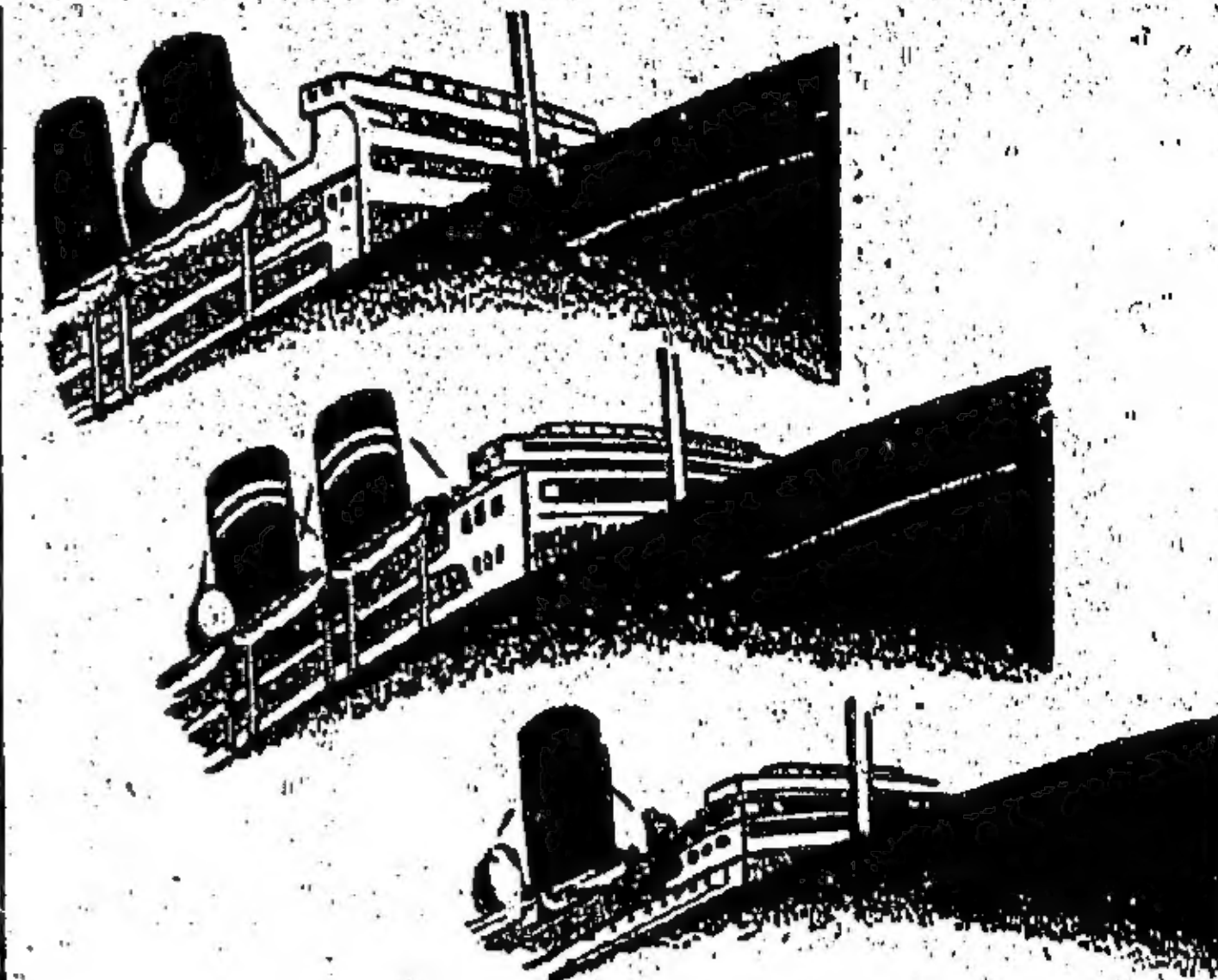
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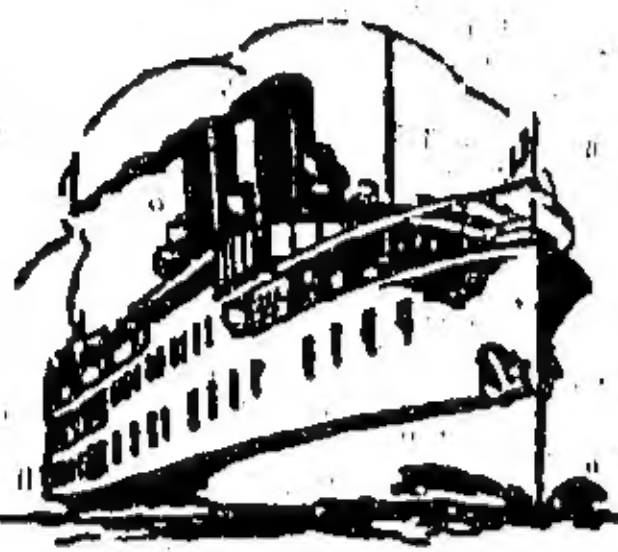
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CARE OF SINGAPORE'S JUVENILE OFFENDERS

An important branch of the work of the Salvation Army in Singapore, of which very little is known, is being brought to light in this article, as a result of the recent decision of local Police Magistrates to send juvenile offenders on remand to the Civil Prison, says the Malaya Tribune.

SHEFFIELD BOMBED

LONDON, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The Sheffield area was the north industrial region bombed by the Germans last night.

It is believed that two, possibly three, German bombers participating in the attack were destroyed. From the surrounding district, it is reported that German airmen were seen to bail out but again no official information of these airmen who had been taken prisoner is available yet.

A small-scale attack was also made on parts of the London area but little damage was done and there were few casualties. Bombs were also dropped in some other parts of the country but damage was slight and casualties were extremely small.

GERMAN CLAIMS

BERLIN, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—Attacks on London and military targets in South-East England by German bomber units are mentioned in today's German High Command communiqué.

It adds that during the daytime on Sunday, German activity was limited to reconnaissance flights by bad weather. British planes, it stated, dropped several high explosive and incendiary bombs on German territory on Sunday night. Roof fires were caused in Berlin.

"A temporary dislocation" of part of the Berlin underground railway was also mentioned. The communiqué states that one enemy plane was shot down, while the Germans suffered no losses and says that one British harbour was again mined.

CABLE NEWS IN BRIEF

PARIS, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—Fifty Paris University students are to be tried by the German military tribunal. They were arrested after anti-German demonstrations in the French capital on Nov. 11 (Armistice Day).

TOKYO, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—For improving Japan's rubber manufacturing industry, the Rubber Manufacturers Export Promotion Company will shortly be established in Kobe with a capital of Yen 2,000,000.

TOKYO, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—For the third time in as many days Japanese naval aircraft subjected communications facilities at Hengyang in central Hunan province to intensive bombardment yesterday, states a report received in Tokyo from a Japanese naval and air base in base.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 11 (Reuter)—The Japanese Army this afternoon formally transferred the Shanghai newspaper censorship office and rights to representatives of the Wang Ching-wai regime, according to an official Japanese announcement. The censorship office has been under Japanese occupation since Nov. 23, 1937.

OTTAWA, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The Naval Defence Department has issued the following statement which is understood to refer to the torpedoed liner Western Prince: "No announcement can be made until the ship or in case of its sinking, until the survivors have reached harbour." Mr. C. D. Howe, Canadian Minister for Munitions, was on board the Western Prince.

LOW SCORING IN ADAMSON CUP

G. T. Harrington (3) won the Bogey Pan Pool of the Royal Hongkong Golf Club at Fanling on Dec. 14/15. The game was played over the New Course and there were 11 entries.

Scoring was low in the Adamson Cup qualifying round (Dec. 2) played at Happy Valley. E. T. Bulfin, with a score of 64 (76-12) qualifying. Other scores were G. W. Reeve 67 (80-13) and J. W. MacDonald 69 (78-7).

The Salvation Army Boys' Home, founded in the middle of 1939 for orphans and uncontrollable cases of between the ages of seven and 16, and latterly, on Government request, a Remand Home for juvenile offenders, on lines similar to the Reformatory, is over-crowded.

The original provision was for only 30 remand cases. Gradual makeshift improvements enabled this accommodation to be multiplied to 60 two years ago. Now the "full house" board is up with 93 inmates.

Adjutant H. King, manager of the Home, told magistrates: "There is no more accommodation for boys in the Home." Hence, the decision to send further juvenile offenders to the Civil Prison.

Adjutant King told a Malaya Tribune reporter in an interview that when he first came to the Home two years ago, there were 60 occupants.

More kept coming in, and partitions were broken down and storerooms were also converted. Even with the space provided by the lock-up, there is room in this building for only 85 boys. Now 93 have been squeezed in.

Grossly inadequate as regards room for the magnitude of its task, the Home houses offenders who are ordered for remand under a period of two years (the Reformatory takes boys who are sentenced for a period of two years and more).

The boys include 23 sent by the Salvation Army headquarters, 45 from Police Courts, and others from other Government sources, such as hospitals etc. Boys against whom cases are pending are also kept in detention here.

Nearly five hundred boys have passed through the Home on remand or on detention from the Police Courts since the Government asked the Salvation Army to make the institution a Remand Home in 1938, and introduced legislation to bring it under the Children's and Young Persons' Place of Detention Ordinance.

From Penang and Malacca also come misguided boys for correct guidance.

Behind the walls of this home lies a story of great humanitarian work which is now being hindered by lack of accommodation; regular hours, clothing, shelter, food, tuition in trades are provided for the inmates—juvenile outcasts of society.

They learn carpentry and tailoring, among other trades, and have indoor games such as table-tennis and boxing.

There are two particularly sad cases. Two boys were put into hospital by their parents and deserted. They were blind. The boys were sent to the Home and are now learning Braille. Their teacher is himself blind—an inmate of Tan Tock Seng hospital.

Great humanitarian work such as this deserves better facilities, more public support.

POLICE REPORTS

Mr. F. P. Franklin, Assistant General Manager of the South China Morning Post, has reported to the police the theft of a pair of binoculars valued at \$45 from outside the front of his residence at No. 34 The Peak yesterday.

The theft of a camera and other articles to the total value of \$175 from his office in King's Theatre Building has been reported to the police by Mr. Lai Kit-tai.

Mr. Kwan Yu-ke has reported that while travelling from the Tung On Wharf to No. 121 Thomson Road, Wanchai, between 1.30 and 2.45 p.m. he lost or had stolen from his pocket \$1,100 in H.K. currency, two \$500 notes and one \$100.

Mr. Choi Sau-luen has reported the loss of money and valuables, amounting to \$211, at No. 17A Arbuthnot Road yesterday.

Money and valuables, to the total value of \$49, were stolen from the house of Yung Kell-hen, at No. 235 Heimey Road yesterday.

NEW NATIONAL STRUCTURE

"Diet Functions As Before"

TOKYO, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—The Diet functions as before despite the new national structure, Mr. Nobufumi Ito, President and official spokesman of the Information board and formerly Japan's Minister-at-Large declared in his first interview with Press correspondents this morning.

Asked whether the Central Council National Service Association which met for its first extraordinary session in Tokyo this morning replaces the Diet, Mr. Ito pointed out that the Central Co-operative Council represents the advisory organ of the National Service Association.

Although it is charged with the mission of effecting a better liaison between the Government and Diet, it does not replace the Diet which continues functioning as before, Mr. Ito added.

MEIJI SYSTEM

Questioned as to whether the Meiji system, introduced following the Meiji restoration in 1868 has been wrong, Mr. Ito replied that it was adapted to those times just as the present system to the present times.

Mr. Ito then turned to the monetary situation which some newspapers reported to be stringent. He admitted that the credit situation was not so good in September and October, but stated that things had markedly improved since November.

(The improvement in the monetary situation since November is ascribed by Mr. Ito as—)

Firstly, to the acceleration of the Government's payments to industrialists since the end of summer, and,

Secondly to the betterment of Japan's foreign trade factor and the relaxation of the restrictions on manufacture and use of luxury which was enforced on July 7.

With the approach of the new year, people have begun to buy more luxury goods, thus helping the monetary situation in the East, Mr. Ito concluded.

RUMOURED SOVIET LOAN TO CHUNGKING

TOKYO, Dec. 16 (Reuter)—Commenting on the rumoured \$100,000,000 Soviet loan to Chungking, the ASAHI SHIMBUN, leading Japanese metropolitan vernacular, in an editorial said that though the rumoured loan is still unascertainable, such an agreement is quite likely.

It said that though great importance must be attached to the rumoured loan, it does not necessarily indicate the strengthening of Soviet assistance to Chungking.

Comparing it with the British and American loans announced recently, which were undoubtedly given as political and military measures against the Tripartite Pact, the rumoured Soviet loan is much smaller in amount and quite different in nature.

Although it is not known whether or not the Soviet Foreign Commissar, M. Molotov had discussed the China question during his recent visit to Berlin, we must at least for the present, watch calmly the future developments in Moscow-Chungking relations.

THE WEATHER

Maximum temperature yesterday was 78 and the minimum 64 compared with 76 and 63 on Sunday. Total rainfall since January 1 is 117.58 inches against an average of 84.81.

The Royal Observatory report states—

A moderate anticyclone covers China. It is increasing in intensity and extending eastward.

A trough of low pressure extends from the Visaya to the Caroline Islands.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF GRAF SPEE

Lord Willington's mission to South American countries fittingly arrived at Montevideo on the first anniversary of the Graf Spee incident, says a British Wireless message.

FOREIGN MAILS

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, 17th DECEMBER, 1940, 9.30 A.M.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

INWARD MAILS

From	Due
Calcutta, Fuzhou and Airmail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (except London) by Sea from Singapore	17th Dec.
U. S. A., Honolulu, Japan, and Shanghai (San Francisco date, 15th November)	17th Dec.
Canada, U.S.A., Japan, and Shanghai (Vancouver B.C., date, 27th November)	17th Dec.
London	17th Dec.
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 16th December	19th Dec.
Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" by sea from Singapore	20th Dec.
Calcutta and Straits	21st Dec.
Sandakan	21st Dec.
Australia and Manila	23rd Dec.
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 17th December	24th Dec.
London and Straits	24th Dec.
London and Straits	25th Dec.
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (San Francisco date, 6th December)	26th Dec.
U.S.A., Honolulu, and Manila (San Francisco date, 3rd December)	26th Dec.
Calcutta and Straits	27th Dec.
Java and Manila	27th Dec.
Swatow	28th Dec.
Sandakan	28th Dec.
London and Straits	31st Dec.

OUTWARD MAILS

Registered and Parcel Mail are closed 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated, and where mails are advertised to close at or before 9 a.m. registered and parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m. on the previous day. When mails are advertised to close after 5 p.m., Registered and Parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m.

For	Date and Time
TUESDAY	
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Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways"	G.P.O. Reg. 5.00 PM Ord. 5.30 PM
WEDNESDAY	
Canton	Wed. 18th. 7.15 AM
Straits and Rangoon	8.30 AM
Manila, Batavia and Sourabaya	8.30 AM
THURSDAY	
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Central and South America and "United Kingdom via San Francisco"	Thu. 19th G.P.O. & K.P.O. Reg. 1.15 AM Ord. 1.30 AM
FRIDAY	
Haiphong	Fri. 20th 10.30 AM
Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways"	K.P.O. Reg. 4.00 PM Ord. 4.30 PM
Air Mail by sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways"	G.P.O. Reg. 5.00 PM Ord. 5.30 PM
SATURDAY	
Straits	Sat. 21st 8.30 AM
MONDAY	
Shanghai, Japan, Canada, U.S.A., Central and South America and "United Kingdom via Vancouver B.C. (Parcels for Canada only)"	Mon. 23rd G.P.O. & K.P.O. Reg. 5.15 AM Ord. 5.30 AM
TUESDAY	
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and "United Kingdom via San Francisco" (No Parcels for Canada and United Kingdom)	Tue. 24th K.P.O. Reg. 5.00 PM Ord. 5.30 PM
WEDNESDAY	
Manila, Macassar and Sourabaya	Wed. 25th 8.30 AM
FRIDAY	
Sandakan	Fri. 27th 8.30 AM
SATURDAY	
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and "United Kingdom via San Francisco" (No Parcels for Canada and United Kingdom)	Sat. 28th K.P.O. Reg. 5.00 PM Ord. 5.30 PM

Printed and Published by Henry Lloyd Murrow, for the Hongkong Daily Press, Ltd., at Marina House, third floor, 25-27, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong. London Office: 51 Fleet Street, E.C.4.